United Nations A/67/853

General Assembly

Distr.: General
2 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda items 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 27, 28, 29, 36, 62, 65, 70, 74 and 83

Culture of peace

Information and communications technologies for development

Macroeconomic policy questions

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

Sustainable development

Social development

Advancement of women

People's empowerment and a peace-centric development model

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Report of the International Criminal Court

The rule of law at the national and international levels

Note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to forward herewith, in its capacity as Chair of the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the texts (in English and French) of the

13-32083 (E) 280513

Please recycle

following documents and resolutions/declarations adopted by the 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held in Quito, from 22 to 27 March 2013, to the General Assembly:

1. Presidential statement on sexual violence against women (General Assembly agenda item 28, "Advancement of Women")

2. Quito Communiqué (General Assembly agenda items 18, "Macroeconomic policy questions"; 20, "Sustainable development"; and 29, "People's empowerment and a peace-centric development model")

3. Resolution on the use of media, including social media, to enhance citizen engagement and democracy (General Assembly agenda items 15, "Culture of peace"; 17, "Information and communications technologies for development"; and 27, "Social development")

4. Resolution on the role of parliaments in addressing the security and humanitarian impact of the crisis in Syria and on international and humanitarian responsibility towards Syrian refugees (General Assembly agenda items 36, "The situation in the Middle East"; 62, "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions"; and 70, "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance")

5. Resolution on enforcing the responsibility to protect the role of parliament in safeguarding civilians' lives (General Assembly agenda items 74, "Report of the International Criminal Court"; 65, "Promotion and protection of the rights of children "; and 83, "The rule of law at the national and international levels")

6. Resolution on fair trade and innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development (General Assembly agenda items 18, "Macroeconomic policy questions"; and 19, "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference")

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations kindly requests the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to circulate these documents as documents of the General Assembly (see annexes).

Annex I to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Presidential statement on sexual violence against women

Endorsed by the 128th IPU Assembly
(Quito, 27 March 2013)

On behalf of the members of parliament attending the 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, I express our deep concern at widespread acts of sexual violence against women and, in particular, rape in all its manifestations and contexts.

We strongly condemn sexual violence. It is one of the most frequent forms of violence inflicted upon women, be it in the public or private sphere. We call for urgent and effective action to guarantee women their right to physical and psychological integrity and a life free of fear and violence.

We express our outrage at these heinous acts of violence and join public calls for an end to impunity.

We urge all parliaments to scrutinize existing laws to ensure that these crimes are defined for what they are — a violation of an individual's physical integrity and sexual autonomy, commi :d by any person regardless of their relationship to the victims, in any setting. We must criminalize such acts of sexual violence, enhance prevention by tackling their root causes, toughen punishment of perpetrators and provide women with adequate protection.

Through our oversight function and political control, we must ensure the enforcement of laws and the allocation of appropriate resources. We will request our governments to report to us regularly on measures taken to raise public awareness. We will ask for statistical data so as to evaluate the incidence of acts of sexual violence and the effectiveness of measures in place.

We will also demand that our governments ensure that all those involved in law enforcement are adequately prepared, trained and held accountable. We must ensure that the response to rape and sexual violence is sensitive to women's needs and that the victims are not subject to punishment, abandonment or stigmatization.

We firmly declare that such acts are intolerable and commit ourselves to championing the cause of ending sexual violence against women.

Annex II to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Quito Communiqué

Adopted by the 128th IPU Assembly
(Quito, 27 March 2013)

> On the occasion of the 128th IPU Assembly in Quito, Ecuador, members of parliament came together for a discussion on the theme *From unrelenting growth to purposeful development "Buen vivir": New approaches, new solutions*. The theme was chosen as a contribution to the global reflection on the post 2015 development agenda and the future Sustainable Development Goals that will apply to both developed and developing countries. The following is a synthesis of the discussion held during the plenary debate of the Assembly which the IPU is requested to share with the United Nations. Members of the IPU may also wish to submit this communiqué to their respective parliaments.

Sustainable development is now at a crossroads. In a finite world, the perennial cycle of increasing consumption and production that is at the heart of the current economic model is no longer sustainable. Growth alone is not the answer to the social, economic and environmental challenges of our time; in fact it is becoming part of the problem. A different approach that focuses on well-being in all its dimensions is required if we are to evolve as a global community able to fulfil core human values of peace, solidarity and harmony with nature.

While growth is a necessary condition for development, and indeed has helped countless generations climb out of poverty, more attention now needs to be paid to the nature of growth and to the distribution of its benefits. Strong growth does not necessarily lead to increased human development and happiness. Conversely, with the right social policy balance it is possible to improve overall well-being even at low levels of economic growth. Job creation and the possibility for people to earn a decent living must be central to policies that support growth and well-being. In developing countries, material growth is essential if we are to eradicate extreme poverty and provide everyone with the necessities of life. Here too, environmental and social sustainability must be part of economic policy from the very start. This will be particularly important in view of population growth and the resultant urban explosion.

Ultimately, well-being consists of human factors that do not necessarily depend on unrestrained material consumption and production. Education, health, culture, leisure time, the practice of religion, the enjoyment of all human rights, emotional fulfilment, as well as a sense of belonging to a community, are all dimensions of human happiness that can be advanced at little cost to the environment and with huge social dividends. Supporting more of these goods should

be another focus of a new model of growth and development. While the private sector must continue to lead in job creation, more jobs will be needed in the social sector and in infrastructure development, which benefits communities and minimizes the impact on the environment. Youth unemployment in particular must be given priority.

For well-being policies to succeed, it is imperative that gender inequalities are eradicated so as to unleash women's full potential as citizens and economic actors. Women, half of the global population, remain by far the most disadvantaged in all spheres of life. In many countries, discriminatory laws and cultural norms deprive women of economic opportunities, with less access to credit and lower wages. In most countries, barriers still exist, preventing women from entering political office or corporate boardrooms. Violence against women remains pervasive and further underscores women's vulnerability in most of our societies.

The transition to well-being policies will not be easy and the course has yet to be fully charted. Bold experimentation will be required. Decision-makers must work to reduce the vast inequalities of conditions and opportunities that exist today both within and between countries. Incentives and regulation must be put in place for market forces to work towards well-being. As a number of countries at various levels of development have shown, it is possible today for all governments to adopt measurements to help better target economic, social and environmental policies for human welfare. Measuring national well-being beyond mere GDP will be critical in redefining growth, not only in terms of material production and consumption, but also in terms of social and environmental progress.

The green economy, with its reliance inter alia on technological efficiency and environmentally friendly products, points us in the right direction but only if it is part of a broader policy framework. This will require fiscal incentives and policies to shift the composition of growth towards less resource-intensive production and consumption. A revised growth model will also need to rely more on distributive policies to spread wealth and opportunity more evenly in order to make economies more viable and strengthen well-being. Indeed, nothing undermines well-being more than a feeling of exclusion and deprivation in contrast to the excessive wealth of others.

Well-being policies will need to strive for a better balance between private interests and the common good, between competition and cooperation, and between private and public investments to produce goods that all can enjoy and that the planet can afford to support. In short, the pursuit of well-being as the ultimate purpose of development, and of human progress, will require a new social contract premised on a vision of the planet and of people as assets to be nurtured. The guiding principle of "Buen vivir" should be paired with "Ubuntu", the African dictum that the success of one depends on the success of the whole community.

To achieve this vision of development, greater global cooperation will be required. Developed countries bear a greater responsibility for global sustainable development and the eradication of extreme poverty. More pro-active efforts to place developed countries' economies on a sustainable path will be needed. More efforts will also be required to facilitate green technology transfers to developing countries, including technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change and other environmental emergencies. Development cooperation must be increased and made

more accountable to both donor and recipient countries. It should also aim more directly at supporting well-being.

Re-thinking the growth-centric economic model will also require a different kind of globalization: based more on solidarity and cooperation than on unfettered competition. The international economic, financial and trade architecture tends to reinforce the wrong growth model and remains tilted in favour of entrenched interests. There must be policies to reduce the excessive power, both economic and political, of transnational corporations and financial conglomerates. The increasing concentration of land ownership in a few hands undermines the livelihood of the rural poor. Since a more equitable land distribution leads to higher growth and improved human development, this problem needs to be addressed.

By definition, well-being policies require *all* citizens, and particularly vulnerable groups such as women, youth, indigenous peoples and the poor, to participate in decision-making. Being able to participate in the decisions that affect our lives and the social and environmental context around us is in itself a key dimension of well-being. Conversely, well-being is also necessary for citizens to participate effectively in the management of public affairs. Participation and its attendants of transparency and accountability are in turn key pillars of democracy and of the way democracy applies to the functioning of government at all levels — global, national and local — and in response to citizens' needs.

Participation, transparency and accountability constitute the core of *democratic governance*, which is an end in itself and an enabler of sustainable development. There can be no true prosperity without respect for the universal values of democracy, the rule of law and human rights. Democratic governance should therefore be a stand-alone goal among the new Sustainable Development Goals, as well as a dimension of other goals that will be part of the future development framework. This is further supported by the results of a survey of hundreds of members carried out during the Assembly.

To help steer sustainable development on a new course, a rebalancing between the role of the market and that of government is called for. Effective ways to help reconcile market needs with social imperatives include the development of private-public partnerships, community-based enterprises and other forms of cooperative models. Government intervention to guarantee the rights of the very poor and to safeguard the natural resource base will also be needed. The interdependent challenges of sustainable development require a concerted approach that only governments can initiate and help implement.

To this effect, it will be more important than ever for parliaments to assert their legitimate place in the decision-making process at the national and international levels. The institution of parliament is pivotal to the entire architecture of democratic governance and needs to be strengthened virtually everywhere in the world, with greater oversight capacities and legislative authority. More specifically, stronger parliaments will have to play a central role in the implementation of the future Sustainable Development Goals. This will include ensuring that development policies and plans are drawn up through participatory and inclusive processes, and with regular progress reports submitted to parliament for review.

This debate should continue in national parliaments as a way of engaging them in the global consultations foreseen in the Rio outcome document, aptly called *The Future We Want*.

Annex III to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

The use of media, including social media, to enhance citizen engagement and democracy

Resolution adopted unanimously by the 128th IPU Assembly (Quito, 27 March 2013)

The 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Considering that dialogue between citizens and parliamentarians has the potential to foster greater respect for democracy and democratic institutions, thus countering declining voter participation and promoting greater accountability,

Taking note of the fact that traditional media, in particular those that respect professional standards of editorial independence, plurality and quality of information, continue to be a main source of information on parliament for much of the world's population,

Mindful of the fact that traditional media are facing challenges in responding to rapid technological and financial changes, which may affect their ability to provide information, including information about parliament, and *noting* that independent, pluralistic and quality media are fundamental for democratic processes,

Aware that increasing numbers of citizens and parliamentarians are using social media globally,

Cognizant of the possibilities offered by social media services for promoting the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms while *underscoring* that these same rights and freedoms, in particular the right to privacy and human dignity, may also be threatened on social networks,

Considering the potential of social media to facilitate greater citizen engagement through interaction between parliamentarians and citizens,

Bearing in mind that media, including social media, may also enhance citizen engagement by allowing people to create networks, motivate each other, engage in monitoring activities and contribute to the decision-making process,

Underscoring that parliamentary work should be explained to citizens in a comprehensible and attractive manner,

Affirming the need to enhance the participation and inclusion of women in the democratic process,

Also affirming the need to enhance youth participation and inclusion in the democratic process,

Further affirming the need to enhance the participation and inclusion of senior citizens in the democratic process, while enhancing their knowledge and use of social media,

Underscoring the potential of social media and recent information technology to enhance parliamentarians' engagement with youth and to raise awareness of the problems, needs and aspirations of youth,

Aware of the need to promote security in a digital society, particularly with regard to traditionally unprotected groups of people, such as the elderly or children and persons with a physical, mental and/or sensory disability,

Aiming to ensure that citizen engagement efforts do not discriminate on the basis of gender, age, socioeconomic status, place of residence, disability, religious belief, ethnicity or political affiliation,

Convinced of the need to overcome digital divides, particularly in developing countries, which result when some social groups and regions do not have the same access to information and communication technologies as others,

Considering that the digital divide may impede citizens' access to information provided through social media, hence the importance of guaranteeing all citizens access to information technologies as well as using traditional media to keep the public informed,

Also considering that citizens' ability to engage with parliamentarians depends partly on access to technology as well as their knowledge of parliament and parliamentary procedure,

Bearing in mind the irreplaceable nature of personal contact in the field for elected politicians,

Noting that there are difficulties in using social media to build a consensus by gathering various opinions in a balanced manner although they function well in disseminating a certain political opinion,

Underscoring the fact that fostering media and Internet literacy with regard to both traditional and new social media is an essential prerequisite for enhancing youth participation and inclusion in the political process,

Concerned that social media may also be used to send hate messages, sometimes anonymously, and allow people with malicious intentions to organize and mobilize others, which may undermine democracy and peace,

Underlining the importance of respecting laws regarding defamation and libel, with particular legislative efforts aimed at avoiding incitement to hatred,

Aware of the need to use social media responsibly, not only fully respecting prevailing legislation, but also the confidentiality, privacy and integrity aspects of the information dealt with,

Convinced of the very important role that media and press regulatory bodies can play in protecting human rights, particularly freedom of expression and the right to privacy,

Also convinced of the role that media and parliamentary press bodies can play in scaling up communication between parliament and the public,

Aware of the significant challenges that would be encountered in developing a universally enforceable code of conduct for social media users,

Encouraged that the IPU and the ASGP are working on social media guidelines for parliaments,

Convinced that parliamentarians need to share information about the potential of social media to enhance citizen engagement and representative democracy, its risks, and the technical requirements needed to realize its potential,

Mindful of the watchdog role of journalists in the political system and the need for journalists to be accountable to the public while following the codes of ethics of journalism,

Aware that journalists no longer have the monopoly on information dissemination, as users of social media generate content and information themselves,

Convinced that corruption represents a serious threat to the rule of law, democracy, human rights, equity and social justice,

Affirming that the right to freedom of expression should also be protected online, and *bearing in mind* that the enjoyment of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Underscoring Article 20, paragraph 2, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, according to which "Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law",

Recalling United Nations Human Rights Council resolution 20/8 of 29 June 2012 on "The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet",

1. *Recommends* that parliaments develop strategies and guidelines for enhancing citizen engagement in the democratic process through the use of media, including social media;

2. *Calls* on the IPU to collect and make publicly available the guidelines developed by its Member Parliaments, and to develop best practices in the use of social media to enhance citizen engagement;

3. *Encourages* parliaments to include in those guidelines additional provisions that address the need for mutual respect among parliamentarians and between parliamentarians and the public when interacting through the media, including social media;

4. *Calls* on parliaments to disseminate through the media, including social media, information on parliamentary business, debates and procedures with the aim of familiarizing citizens with them and making them more comprehensible, attractive and dynamic;

5. *Encourages* parliaments to use media, including social media, as part of a platform to interact with citizens, while ensuring that any social media engagement would not replace offline engagement, including through traditional media;

6. *Urges* parliaments and parliamentarians to ensure that their citizen engagement efforts are accessible to all regardless of gender, age, socioeconomic status, place of residence, disability, religious belief, ethnicity or political affiliation;

7. *Encourages* parliaments to provide parliamentarians with the necessary information technology resources, assistance, training, equipment, technical support, access and any other forms of assistance to effectively use the media, including social media, as a way of engaging with citizens;

8. *Urges* parliaments to take effective measures aimed at narrowing the digital divide, especially for developing countries where the majority of the population still does not have access to information technology resources;

9. *Calls* on all stakeholders to foster Internet and media literacy for all citizens, in particular children and young people, for example by developing and offering special educational and training programmes;

10. *Urges* parliaments and parliamentarians to respect the rights to freedom of expression, information and assembly, both online and offline;

11. *Underscores* that a free, open and accessible Internet is both a fundamental human right and a tool for citizens to enhance engagement and democracy, and *also underscores* that parliamentarians must assume responsibility for ensuring that citizens have access to free and secure communications online;

12. *Emphasizes* that any regulation of the media must be consistent with international human rights obligations in relation to the right to freedom of expression;

13. *Calls* on all social media users to respect their country's laws regarding defamation and libel in accordance with international human rights law;

14. *Also calls* on all social media users to refrain from hate speech or incitement to violence in accordance with international human rights law;

15. *Further calls* on parliaments to actively support and protect journalists and social media users, including bloggers, and defenders of the freedom of speech around the world;

16. *Urges* parliaments and parliamentarians to protect the right to freedom of expression and speech so as to facilitate journalists' watchdog role through traditional media and social media while respecting ethical codes, thereby enhancing democracy;

17. *Calls* on parliaments to provide parliamentarians with information and assistance regarding legal and other issues pertaining to defamation, libel, the protection of privacy and confidentiality;

18. *Invites* parliaments to put in place, where necessary, regulations and procedures guaranteeing the rights of all persons using new information and communication technologies in a representative and participatory democracy;

19. *Calls* on parliamentarians not only to use new technologies safely, but also to promote such use by third parties and instil a culture of security in the use of social media;

20. *Urges* parliamentarians to work towards achieving a safer digital society, particularly with regard to the use of social networks;

21. *Encourages* the incorporation of social media and technologies into laws and regulations governing access to public information;

22. *Also encourages* parliaments and governments to adopt measures aimed at protecting press freedom, enhancing its transparency, strengthening its capacities and making it more democratic;

23. *Urges* parliamentarians, especially women parliamentarians, to use social media to support each other and interact with communities to enhance women's participation and inclusion in democratic processes;

24. *Also urges* parliamentarians to use social media to increase their engagement with youth and raise awareness of youth problems, needs and aspirations;

25. *Invites* parliaments to conduct a study of media coverage of parliament in their countries so as to gauge the importance of each type of media and each medium;

26. *Urges* the governments of countries that do not already have one to put in place an independent watchdog body to monitor the proper functioning of the freedom of expression and communication of the media and to prevent abuses and human rights violations that might result from the activity of communications professionals;

27. *Encourages* parliaments to diversify their means of communication by creating their own media bodies and by facilitating public access thereto;

28. *Also encourages* parliaments and parliamentarians to establish and respect codes of ethics for communications and to recognize the need for discussions and mutual agreements on how political or other debates should be conducted.

Annex IV to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

The role of parliaments in addressing the security and humanitarian impact of the crisis in Syria and in bringing pressure to bear on their Governments to assume their international and humanitarian responsibility towards Syrian refugees and to support the neighbouring countries that receive them

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 128th IPU Assembly (Quito, 27 March 2013)*

The 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recalling the resolution on "Inter-Parliamentary Union initiative for an immediate halt to the bloodshed and human rights violations in Syria, and the need to ensure access to humanitarian aid for all persons in need and to support implementation of all relevant Arab League and United Nations resolutions and peace efforts" adopted by consensus by the 126th IPU Assembly (Kampala, 2012),

Stressing the importance of respecting the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Syria, the principles of the UN Charter, the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the objectives of the IPU as set forth in Article 1 of its Statutes,

Expressing its deep concern over the situation in Syria and its impact on civilians in general and on women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities in particular,

Considering the psychological trauma from which Syrian refugees are suffering, in particular after losing many of their family members and property,

Conscious of the growing need to take in refugees in neighbouring countries, both in refugee camps and elsewhere, which entails higher costs,

Cognizant of the increasing economic, security, social, health and educational pressures on recipient countries, the majority of which already have scarce resources,

Recalling the pledge made by donor countries at their most recent conference in Kuwait to provide support in the amount of US$ 1.5 billion to the relief agencies involved in assisting Syrian refugees in the region; and *noting* that the amount actually received does not exceed US$ 200 million according to a statement by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees,

* Reservations with regard to the use of the word "security" in the title of the resolution were expressed by the delegations of Algeria, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Peru, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Uruguay. In addition, the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic expressed reservations on several parts of the resolution which it felt violated the sovereignty of Syria, and the delegation of Cuba expressed a reservation on the first preambular paragraph.

Taking note of the significant difference between the international assistance that should be provided in the light of the burden borne by recipient countries and the funds actually received,

Acknowledging with deep appreciation the efforts of neighbouring countries, including Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq, to keep their borders open and provide refuge for those fleeing the violence, despite the difficult organizational and security problems associated with this task,

1. *Calls* on all parliamentarians and IPU Member Parliaments to bring pressure to bear on their governments to provide whatever financial and material support they can to these refugees;

2. *Urges* the donor countries which met at the most recent conference in Kuwait to fulfil their obligation to provide financial support of US$ 1.5 billion;

3. *Calls* on all countries to provide refugees in recipient countries with shelter and accommodation to protect them against the cold in winter and the heat in summer;

4. *Appeals* to relief agencies to provide sanitation facilities, all necessary medical care (consultation, hospital care, obstetric care and medical equipment) and sufficient quantities of foodstuffs for Syrian refugees, most of whom are women, children, elderly persons or persons with disabilities, and to try to provide schooling for the children in the camps;

5. *Urges* countries to provide financial support to recipient countries to ease the pressure on their financial resources, which are already scarce in many of them, including Jordan;

6. *Calls* on Syria's neighbours to ensure, with the support of relief agencies, that refugees on their territories are accommodated in accordance with the 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol;

7. *Also calls* on the United Nations to assist recipient countries in preventing the cross-border circulation of weapons so as to guarantee the safety of refugees;

8. *Expresses its concern* that, given current circumstances surrounding the influx of refugees, some recipient countries may be forced to close their borders, which will further complicate the humanitarian situation in the region;

9. *Urges* all parties in Syria to put an end to all forms of violence immediately, fully and unconditionally; and *calls* on all relevant regional and international parties to find ways of helping Syria to reach a peaceful solution to its internal conflict, while safeguarding its territorial integrity and sovereignty, as well as the safety, security and human rights of its citizens.

Annex V to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Enforcing the responsibility to protect: the role of parliament in safeguarding civilians' lives

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 128th IPU Assembly (Quito, 27 March 2013)*

The 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Acknowledging that, following several global initiatives, the responsibility to protect was recognized at the 2005 World Summit as a necessary and important principle to prevent, and protect populations from, genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Recalling that this principle was established with a view to preventing genocides such as those that occurred in Srebrenica and Rwanda,

Also recalling that the UN Security Council considers that the international crimes of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity constitute threats to international peace and security and that the principle of the responsibility to protect was reaffirmed in its resolution 1674 (2006), which addressed the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict,

Stressing that any decision related to the application of the responsibility to protect must be taken in a timely and decisive manner, through the UN Security Council, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, in particular its Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and that any such action must be accompanied by the provision of adequate means to protect civilians, by giving priority to peaceful means,

Underscoring the special plight of women and children in situations of armed conflict,

Recalling that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute crimes against humanity under the provisions of UN Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security (1325, 1888 and 1960) and, in particular, resolution 1820, which recognizes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide,

* The delegation of Cuba expressed a reservation on the entire resolution.
The delegation of Peru expressed a reservation on operative paragraph 10, considering that "any mention of the International Criminal Court (ICC) or the Rome Statute must not be prejudicial to other international jurisdictions recognized by the State in question, in particular regional jurisdictions".
The delegations of Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic expressed reservations on the ninth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 10 and 11.

Mindful of the fact that the responsibility to protect is based on three pillars: the permanent responsibility of each individual State to protect its population, whether nationals or not, from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, which entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means; the international community's commitment to assist and help to build the capacity of States to fulfil this obligation; and its commitment to take collective action in a timely and decisive manner when national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

Underscoring the importance of combating impunity in the case of perpetrators and instigators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community and recognizing the contribution in this field of the International Criminal Court (ICC); *also underscoring* the need to raise awareness of the role played by the ICC, to encourage reporting of and filing of complaints against the perpetrators of such crimes with the appropriate national authorities and the ICC, and to enhance the capacity of national authorities to respond to complaints, pursue justice, and cooperate and coordinate with the ICC, while recognizing the important contribution of those involved in providing the necessary evidence and sufficient information to the ICC,

Recalling that paragraph 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document states that "the international community, through the United Nations, also has a responsibility to use appropriate diplomatic, humanitarian and other peaceful means, in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the UN Charter, to help protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity"; *expressing* its willingness in this context to take collective action, in a timely and decisive manner, through the UN Security Council, in accordance with the Charter, including Chapter VII, on a case-by-case basis and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations as appropriate, should peaceful means be inadequate and national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity; *stressing* the need for the UN General Assembly to pursue its consideration of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and its implications, bearing in mind the principles of the Charter and international law; and *undertaking*, as necessary and appropriate, to help States build their capacity to protect their populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to assist those in distress before crises and conflicts break out,

Aware of the concerns raised regarding the possibility of selective enforcement of the responsibility to protect and *underscoring* that the need to protect should not be seen as providing a pretext for interference in the internal affairs of a State on the basis of political and other extraneous considerations,

Reaffirming that the UN Security Council has primary responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security and *noting* the role of the UN General Assembly relating to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter,

Underscoring that prevention is a core aspect of the responsibility to protect and *stressing* the importance of education, the role of the media and the need to address the root causes of armed conflict,

Recognizing that, before any military intervention is authorized by the UN Security Council, it should give due consideration to all other avenues for action under Chapters VI, VII and VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and *mindful* that the responsibility to protect should be invoked only in order to prevent, or to protect populations from, genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

Reaffirming the principle of the sovereign equality of all States, enshrined in Article 2 of the UN Charter, and *underscoring* that the responsibility to protect is premised both on State sovereignty and on the State's pre-existing and permanent legal obligations,

Convinced that parliaments around the world should consider ways and means to apply and implement the responsibility to protect in a timely, consistent and effective manner in order to avoid a situation where the international community is deadlocked over whether and how to act to prevent or to stop the massacre of civilians, having particular regard to UN Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security and on children and armed conflict,

Recalling that the 126th IPU Assembly (Kampala, 2012) adopted a resolution by consensus calling for the immediate cessation of violence and human rights violations and abuses in the Syrian Arab Republic and for support for the efforts of international and regional organizations to bring about a peaceful end to the crisis, and urging the United Nations and the League of Arab States to redouble their efforts to help bring an end to armed violence in the country and address the current humanitarian crisis, and to work urgently to address all aspects related to the problem of displaced Syrians on the border with neighbouring countries,

Convinced that parliaments should be more involved in applying the responsibility to protect and, in particular, that their role in safeguarding the lives and security of their populations entails thorough consideration and action to prevent or stop genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Also convinced that mutual support between parliament, government, civil society and the judiciary may effectively help to enhance human rights protection,

Aware that restoring or maintaining peace in regions subjected to insecurity and violence requires considerable financial resources,

Convinced of the broader need for State authorities and parliaments to address the root causes of armed conflict and mass atrocities, by practising good governance and ensuring accountable public institutions, promoting and protecting human rights for all, guaranteeing the rule of law and fair, equal and impartial access to justice, professional and democratically accountable security services, inclusive economic growth and respect for diversity,

Underscoring the responsibility of the United Nations in ensuring respect for the rights of refugees in accordance with the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees,

Also underscoring that the role of parliament in the application of the responsibility to protect should be based on respect for the different legislative and executive roles and that oversight of the executive should be in line with democratic principles, in particular the protection and promotion of human rights, while *noting*

that parliaments have their own tools and committees for addressing issues related to the responsibility to protect,

1. *Invites* parliaments and parliamentarians to use all the public education and awareness-raising tools at their disposal to help prevent and put an end to genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, paying particular attention to the plight of women and children, and to address issues related to the root causes of armed conflict;

2. *Calls* on parliamentarians to use all the tools at their disposal, including social media, to denounce acts of violence against women and children and fight impunity;

3. *Urges* parliaments to ensure that their governments protect populations, whether or not the nationals of their countries, from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and *also urges* parliaments and governments to assist and build the capacity of States to prevent the commission of genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity and protect their populations, whether or not their own, from them and, where necessary, to engage in timely and decisive action, in accordance with the UN Charter, to prevent or put an end to such crimes;

4. *Calls* on parliaments to step up their oversight of government action to combat terrorism and implement UN Security Council resolutions adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, which call on States to refrain from financing terrorists, facilitating their movement and aiding terrorism;

5. *Also calls* on parliaments to adopt laws and policies to protect women and children, to prevent and criminalize sexual violence and to provide redress for victims in times of peace and conflict;

6. *Encourages* parliaments to become acquainted with their States' obligations under international treaties and resolutions, to monitor the executive's submission of country reports as required by the relevant treaty bodies, particularly those relating to human rights, to become more involved with regional and international human rights mechanisms and to ensure that all United Nations doctrines and resolutions regarding the responsibility to protect are fully applied and respected by every country;

7. *Calls* on parliaments where necessary to ensure that all international treaties to which their country is party are incorporated in domestic law, giving priority to treaties dealing with human rights and the protection of civilians, especially those applicable to the rights and protection of women and children during and after armed conflicts and other crises;

8. *Urges* all parliaments to adopt measures to respect the rights of civilians caught up in armed conflicts, ensure adequate and effective judicial remedies, including efficient investigation and prosecution, treat women and child victims with dignity, and guarantee reparation to victims;

9. *Encourages* parliaments to adopt programmes to help child soldiers resume a normal life;

10. *Calls* on parliaments to take all the necessary measures to bring their countries' criminal and military law into line with international norms on the

protection of civilians in armed conflict and to ensure that the perpetrators of the most serious crimes are held to account for their acts before a national court or, where a State is unwilling or genuinely unable to take action, before the International Criminal Court, in the case of a State Party to the Rome Statute;

11. *Urges* parliamentarians to use their international network to promote the universal ratification of the Rome Statute, which recognizes the competence of the International Criminal Court with regard to crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes; *requests* parliaments to ensure that their governments sign the Rome Statute; and *calls* on all parliaments that have not already done so to ratify it;

12. *Also urges* parliaments to promote debate on an arms trade treaty in order to put an end to the transfer of weapons in cases where there is a high risk that such weapons will be used to commit or facilitate violations of human rights or international humanitarian law or to hinder the fight against poverty;

13. *Calls* on all parliaments that have not yet done so to establish committees to oversee international relations and provide such committees with sufficient financial and human resources and adequate time on the parliamentary agenda to conduct their work;

14. *Encourages* parliaments to ensure that the protection of human rights, including those of women and children, members of minorities and indigenous peoples, is guaranteed in domestic law and implemented in practice;

15. *Urges* parliaments and governments to guarantee the human rights of women and further enhance their role in peace and security initiatives, honour existing international commitments to protect women's rights and incorporate women's leadership in decision-making for preventing and putting an end to mass atrocity crimes;

16. *Stresses* that, with regard to the responsibility to protect, parliaments should pay special attention to the human rights of women and children in crisis areas, as they often suffer the most and their misery is overlooked, with far-reaching human, social and economic consequences;

17. *Calls* on parliaments to encourage their governments to support the creation and effective functioning of early warning systems and decision-making and response mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels, in order to respond faster and more effectively to situations of armed conflict and internal disturbances and tensions;

18. *Invites* parliaments to actively bring to the attention of their governments situations of risk for civilian populations by ensuring that their governments discharge their responsibility of follow-up and prevention;

19. *Calls* for efforts to promote the media's role in documenting, preventing, and raising awareness about the commission of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity by guaranteeing freedom of expression; ensuring that freedom of the media is protected by the national constitution and law; demanding that all parties abide by their international obligations related to the protection and safety of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel; encouraging accurate journalism that respects the human rights of all populations; speaking out against expressions of hatred that constitute incitement to

discrimination, hostility or violence; and, where appropriate, legislating against such expressions;

20. *Calls* on parliaments to act resolutely upon the requests of their governments to provide sustainable assistance for the restoration of peace in post-conflict situations that give rise to mass atrocities and require such assistance, and to allocate the necessary funds to assist with the reconstruction of countries emerging from crises or conflicts and contribute to the UN peacebuilding fund as appropriate;

21. *Requests* parliaments to include funds in State budgets for the organization of operations to protect populations from violence and ensure their safety;

22. *Calls* on parliaments to ensure implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325, including by facilitating the participation of women in peace processes and negotiations, ensuring that women make up at least one third of negotiating teams, are well represented in defence and security forces and are properly trained as peacemakers and peacebuilders;

23. *Urges* the IPU to facilitate an exchange of good practices in the areas of parliamentary oversight of the enforcement of the responsibility to protect and parliamentary involvement in the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict and in the protection of populations from genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity;

24. *Also urges* parliaments to be attentive to and scrutinize the reports of human rights organizations and the way in which governments ensure the protection of human rights;

25. *Calls* on parliaments to promote good governance based on the positive correlation between good governance and the advancement of peace and security;

26. *Also calls* on parliaments to monitor closely UN Security Council proceedings, request their governments to make the case at the Security Council for the need to act responsibly when resorting to coercive measures and ensure that once adopted resolutions are enforced in their entirety and in a transparent manner;

27. *Further calls* on parliaments to ensure that humanitarian agencies mainstream gender throughout their programmes and give women priority in emergency situations;

28. *Urges* all parliaments to defend and promote human rights, the rule of law and democracy throughout the world;

29. *Encourages* parliaments to work together with civil society on issues of peace and security in order to better guarantee and improve protection of the human rights of citizens;

30. *Calls* on governments and parliaments to assume responsibility for protecting the rights of refugees and their right to international protection, and *also calls* on parliaments and governments to fulfil their obligations to protect refugees and asylum-seekers.

Annex VI to the note verbale dated 29 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Fair trade and innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development

Resolution adopted unanimously by the 128th IPU Assembly (Quito, 27 March 2013)

The 128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Stating that fair trade serves two objectives, namely: it provides real opportunities for the development of small-scale producers and workers in developing countries; and it has a positive impact on the global trading system and private companies, encouraging them to become more justice-oriented, socially inclusive and supportive of sustainable development; all of this must be done in compliance with the standards and policies of the International Labour Organization (ILO),

Aware that fair trade has a positive impact on the income of producers and workers, in particular women, in developing countries as well as on employment in developed countries and on sustainable development,

Recalling the Partnership Agreement between the Members of the Group of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) and the European Community and its Member States, signed in Cotonou (Benin) on 23 June 2000 (Cotonou Agreement) and amended in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005 and in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on 22 June 2010, in particular Article 23(i), which expresses support for the promotion of fair trade and notes that the realization of fair trade objectives is linked to sustainable development requirements and needs, and *emphasizing* respect for fair trade principles, particularly in the context of dialogue, transparency, respect and equality in international trade,

Also recalling the São Paulo Consensus, adopted at the Eleventh Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in São Paulo (Brazil) from 13 to 18 June 2004 and the decisions taken at the Rio+20 Summit held in Brazil in June 2012, set forth in the document *The Future We Want*, which noted that, given the social and human dimension of globalization, "development strategies have to be formulated with a view to promoting sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all and to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions",

Noting that the European Union is currently the largest market for fair trade products, accounting for between 60 and 70 per cent of global sales,

Considering that fair trade should be based on the principles of sustainability, equity, transparency and gender equality in order to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor,

Mindful of the need to have innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development as a way of eradicating poverty, ensuring primary education for all, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and combating major pandemics,

Also mindful of the need for strong and independent judicial systems to dispense justice in a swift and effective manner as a way of ensuring sustainable development,

Aware of the need to address and combat climate change and global warming, which should be seen as the result of human activity, and of the need to increase public and private investment and international cooperation for enhancing food security in the face of climate change threats, and *considering* in this regard that the responsibilities and obligations of all countries at all times must be based on the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility,

Also aware of the need for international laws governing international trade to ensure a level playing field between and among developed and developing countries,

Further aware of the need to realize the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as a way of accelerating sustainable development,

Recalling previous IPU resolutions, in particular those adopted by the 104th Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Jakarta, 2000) on "Financing for development and a new paradigm of economic and social development designed to eradicate poverty" and the 112th Assembly (Manila, 2005) on "The role of parliaments in establishing innovative international financing and trading mechanisms to address the problem of debt and achieve the Millennium Development Goals",

Also recalling the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Busan, December 2011), which pledged to "... further develop innovative financial mechanisms to mobilize private finance for shared development goals",

Referring to the ground-breaking work of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development,

Also referring to the Outcome Document of the Rio+20 Conference, which states: "We consider that innovative financing mechanisms can make a positive contribution in assisting developing countries to mobilize additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis. Such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing. While recognizing the considerable progress in innovative sources of financing for development, we call for a scaling-up of present initiatives, where appropriate",

Confirming that developed countries' fulfilment and respect of their financing commitments and the principles of aid effectiveness are, for the time being, insufficient to achieve the MDGs and other development goals,

Underscoring that, given the magnitude of financing requirements for sustainable development, financial resources need to be raised from the full range of private, public and mixed sources, and through multiple channels and instruments, while taking measures to prevent the deviation of these resources to illicit activities,

Observing that a number of key sectors of the global economy are currently not taxed in some countries despite the negative externalities they generate,

Welcoming the significant upsurge of private philanthropic funds invested in sustainable development projects, which must not absolve States of their responsibility towards their inhabitants,

Considering the growing importance of remittances as a source of financing for the development of poor or middle-income countries, and *concerned* by the often exorbitant cost of sending them,

Underscoring that climate change will affect developing countries in particular and that funding measures to prevent and mitigate its effects and reduce energy poverty will contribute to achieving the MDGs,

Taking into account the role and work of the World Trade Organization (WTO),

1. *Calls* on parliaments to promote and support fair trade and other independently monitored trade initiatives that contribute to raising social and environmental standards as tools for achieving the MDGs and the implementation of a post-2015 development agenda; *calls* on the European Union to continue to promote and support fair trade and other independently monitored trading initiatives, and to implement Article 23 (i) of the Cotonou Agreement;

2. *Also calls* on all governments to continue to promote and support fair trade and to include fair trade as an integral component of the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be part of the post-2015 development agenda;

3. *Further calls* on the European Union to continue to promote and support fair trade and other independently monitored trading initiatives, and to implement Article 23 (i) of the Cotonou Agreement;

4. *Invites* developed countries to provide financial resources to developing countries through their development cooperation mechanisms for developing new fair trade products and ensure that consumers have access to all the information they need to make the right choices;

5. *Calls* for fair trade to respect fair trade standards, as certified by Fair Trade International, which include inter alia clear minimum and progressive criteria to ensure that the conditions of production and trade of all fair trade-certified products are socially and economically fair and environmentally responsible, paying particular attention to ILO standards;

6. *Also calls* for supporting partnerships for development between governments, local authorities, businesses and citizens, such as Fair Trade, which ensure market access for disadvantaged producers, guarantee sustainable livelihoods and encourage environmentally sustainable farming and production practices;

7. *Requests* that fair trade certification processes be put in place under the authority of the State and in the framework of regional organizations competent in the area of trade and the WTO;

8. *Urges* parliaments and governments to explore the potential of innovative sources of financing required to meet development needs and to identify possible instruments and allocation mechanisms;

9. *Encourages* parliaments and governments to explore the national, regional and/or international potential of the following innovative financing sources:

- a financial transaction tax, in a variety of forms;
- taxation of carbon emissions, in a variety of forms;
- taxation of globalized activities, such as aviation and maritime activities;
- public-private partnerships to fight major diseases, such as the GAVI Alliance and Rotary International's successful campaign to eradicate malaria; and
- the use of guarantees and insurance to stimulate private financing for development, such as Advanced Market Commitments;

10. *Urges* parliaments to play an active role both through legislation and regulatory action to reduce taxes and fees on fair trade products;

11. *Appeals* to parliaments and governments to better take into account remittances when defining their development strategies and financing thereof and *stresses* that labour-recipient countries should not impose any undue restrictions on the money transfers of these workers to their home countries but should, on the contrary, reduce the costs given that these are a basic source of hard currency in such countries;

12. *Underscores* that these innovative financial flows should not place additional burdens on developing countries, that they should supplement existing official development assistance flows without reducing them, and should be compatible with a post-2015-development-agenda-centred development strategy, while being as far as possible predictable and sustainable;

13. *Also underscores* that transparency and public scrutiny of innovative financing mechanisms are a sine qua non for their introduction and *suggests* conducting case studies of existing programmes with a view to providing guidance; *appeals* for the harmonization of fragmented monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to reduce transaction costs and facilitate independent monitoring and evaluation mechanisms so as to assess the delivery of innovative financing and its impact on development outcomes;

14. *Cautions* against setting up complicated structures for innovative financing that could impede transparent allocations of their proceeds to development projects, facilitate public scrutiny thereof and guarantee an effective evaluation of their contribution to development goals;

15. *Appeals* for consideration to be given to allocating the proceeds of innovative financing mechanisms through globally or regionally inclusive institutions;

16. *Advocates* for the coordination of relevant NGO activities and better use of existing programmes and experience;

17. *Urges* parliaments and governments of both developed and developing countries to promote international cooperation in the fight against tax evasion and step up efforts in the area of taxation, mainly in terms of tax collection and measures to combat tax evasion and unlawful capital flows to tax heavens, efforts which are crucial to achieving a sound fiscal policy and increasing domestic revenue, in particular through the recognition and protection of property rights, especially for

women, land registry systems and improving the business and investment climate in developing countries;

18. *Calls* for the strengthening and wider implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) as a means to improve revenue transparency and accountability in the extractive sectors, and *invites* parliaments to support and monitor EITI processes in their respective countries;

19. *Invites* the governments of developed countries to scale up their assistance in the area of strengthening tax authorities, the judiciary and anti-corruption agencies in developing countries;

20. *Also invites* the governments of developed countries to combat active corruption committed in developing countries by companies domiciled in their jurisdictions;

21. *Urges* developing and developed countries to scale up their efforts to combat corruption by putting in place effective and impartial judicial systems so as to increase the efficiency of public spending and investments;

22. *Calls* on governments and NGOs to work towards meeting the commitments under the Copenhagen Accord and other international accords dealing with climate change;

23. *Encourages* parliaments and governments to explore in depth the possibility of establishing innovative financing mechanisms to assist developing countries in combating climate change;

24. *Calls* on all governments, particularly in developing countries, to work towards the achievement of sustainable development by improving the level of education of their citizens and empowering women, children and other disadvantaged groups, and *encourages* parliaments and governments to explore in depth the possibility of establishing innovative financing mechanisms for education;

25. *Also calls* for the holding of an international parliamentary conference on fair trade to discuss ways of achieving fair trade and the role of parliaments therein;

26. *Invites* those States which have not yet done so to join the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development set up in 2006 and to participate in all existing financing mechanisms for sustainable development;

27. *Calls* on parliamentarians and the IPU to play a pivotal role in advocating for fair trade as a means of ensuring sustainable development.

United Nations A/67/854–S/2013/257

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
1 May 2013
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 105
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, I wish to transmit the following information.

On the morning of 29 April 2013, Damascus was struck by yet another terrorist act. A car bomb exploded near the Ibn Rushd gardens at an intersection in the Mazzah area. It targeted the convoy of Prime Minister Wa'il al-Halqi, killing 4 people, injuring 16 and inflicting significant material damage on the Communications building and a kindergarten in the area, which is densely inhabited and busy with traffic. On the morning of 30 April 2013, armed terrorist groups committed a further terrorist atrocity by causing an explosion in the Marjah area of Damascus, which is the commercial and historic centre of the city. According to first estimates, 13 civilians were killed and over 70 injured, some of them seriously.

Those terrorist acts are part of an organized succession of terrorist attacks targeting civilians, State institutions, public and private property, mosques and churches. One such example was the targeting of the densely inhabited Shahbandar area on 8 April 2013. Moreover, armed men have directed random mortar fire at densely inhabited areas, killing dozens of civilians, injuring hundreds and damaging public and private property.

The Prime Minister chairs the ministerial committee to follow up implementation of the political programme to resolve the crisis in Syria. The attempt on his life therefore clearly demonstrates the perpetrators' rejection of the political solution. It shows the true criminal face of the armed groups and their backers, who provide political cover for their strategy of terrorism and destruction as the sole means to realize their political and ideological aims, which run counter to modern humanitarian values and human nature in equal measure.

This cowardly act shows that such individuals are failing as a result of the progress made by the ministerial committee, which has consulted with political and

Please recycle

social forces that wish to participate in the political process and help formulate concerted approaches for the success of the political programme to resolve the crisis in Syria.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that the terrorist acts have continued because the Al-Qaida-linked armed terrorist groups that perpetrate them receive various forms of support, including funds, training and weapons. Such support clearly violates the concerned States' counter-terrorism obligations under the principles of international law and United Nations resolutions.

The Syrian Arab Republic recalls the demands contained in all of its previous letters to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council. These terrorist atrocities must be condemned clearly, resolutely and without scope for ambiguity or interpretation. An end must be brought to the support provided by a group of regional, Arab and other States, which are determined to perpetuate the violence and block the political solution to the crisis in Syria. The Syrian Arab Republic repeats its demand that the Security Council should adopt a resolute stance affirming its determination to combat terrorism wherever and whenever it occurs and stressing its genuine intention to enforce the relevant resolutions. Failure to take any measures against such terrorist acts would amount to a setback in international efforts to combat and eradicate terrorism.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 105, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/67/855

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 May 2013
English
Original: English and Spanish

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 15
Culture of peace

Note verbale dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations, in its capacity as President pro tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and would be grateful if the Executive Office of the Secretary-General would circulate the Suriname Declaration (see annex) adopted at the first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of CELAC, held on 14 and 15 March 2013 in Paramaribo, Suriname, as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 15.

13-32294 (E) 140513 150513

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Nineteenth Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean and first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States

14 and 15 March 2013, Paramaribo, Suriname

Suriname Declaration

We, the Ministers of Culture and heads of delegation gathered at the nineteenth Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean, held jointly with the first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), aware of the historical significance of this gathering, held in Paramaribo, Suriname, on 14 and 15 March 2013, with the objective of advancing cultural integration, preserving cultural heritage and promoting culture for economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development in the region,

1. Ratify the validity of the principles and objectives that prompted the establishment, in 1989, of the Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean and its vanguard role in recognizing the importance of culture for the sustainable development of all member States of the region, as well as its contribution to Latin American and Caribbean integration;

2. Recognize that the establishment of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) constitutes a landmark in the history of the region, as this is the first time a regional entity has been established with the mission of advancing the political, economic, social and cultural integration of Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. Reaffirm the validity of the agreements contained in the Caracas Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean at the founding Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held on 3 December 2011 in Venezuela, and the Declaration of the first CELAC Summit, adopted on 28 January 2013 in Santiago, Chile;

4. Recognize the symbolic importance of this gathering as the first meeting of Ministers of Culture to be held within the framework of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC);

5. Reaffirm our respect for the cultural diversity characterizing the Latin American and Caribbean identities as multi-ethnic, multicultural and multilingual societies, which constitutes the basis for cooperation and actions aimed at achieving regional integration, which, in keeping with the spirit and the principles of CELAC, must be built on the basis of respect for pluralism and the sovereign rights of each of our peoples, as well as full respect for the norms and principles of international law;

6. Recognize, on an equal footing, all Latin American and Caribbean cultural values and their important contribution to the cultural heritage of mankind;

7. Support the adoption of the measures necessary to safeguard and recover the traditional knowledge and wisdom of the indigenous peoples, Afro-descendent communities and communities of other geographical origin which today are part of the Latin American and Caribbean identities, while at the same time protecting those communities' individual and collective rights to all this knowledge and preventing any arbitrary action against them;

8. Ratify the importance of cultural rights within the entire spectrum of human rights, as well as the importance of according them all the necessary attention in order to ensure their full enjoyment;

9. Recognize the merit of cultural policies as a means of promoting values that reflect respect for life, human dignity, multiculturalism and the principles of justice and tolerance, and rejection of violence, as elements integral to the construction of a culture of peace that identifies the region;

10. Reaffirm our support for the proclamation by the United Nations, in December 2012, of the International Decade for People of African Descent, and welcome the inclusion in its programme of action of the creation of a permanent forum for people of African descent and the development of a universal declaration on people of African descent, among other ongoing initiatives;

11. Emphasize the relevance of the set of international conventions in the field of culture adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and urge those States of the region which have not yet done so to ratify them in accordance with their domestic legislative frameworks so that their concepts, guidelines and instruments may support the cultural policies of the region;

12. Ratify the role of culture in eradicating poverty and reducing social inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean, as part of the process of building more equitable societies that are better equipped to face current challenges, incorporating sustainable development strategies;

13. Request UNESCO, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), to carry out studies — using an agreed methodology — that quantify the impact of culture and the cultural industries on the achievement of the objectives outlined in paragraph 12 above, as well as a catalogue on best practices in this area, to be shared through the Portal of Culture. These studies should be submitted to the meeting of national coordinators of CELAC to be held in Havana, Cuba, in November 2013;

14. Express our determination to continue to combat illicit trafficking in cultural goods in the region and take note of the recommendations in this regard put forward by the member States that participated in the Training Workshop for Caribbean Member States held in Saint Lucia in December 2012;

15. Reaffirm our unanimous support for United Nations General Assembly resolutions 65/166 and 66/208 on culture and development, and fully support all efforts for the express inclusion of culture in the sustainable development goals being defined on the basis of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which will be adopted in 2015;

16. Assume the mandate to act in a consensus-based manner as CELAC, in the framework of its rules of procedure, and to bring our proposals and experiences on cultural matters to multilateral forums, including the International Congress "Culture: Key to Sustainable Development", to be held in Hangzhou, China, from 15 to 17 May 2013, and the substantive session of 2013 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to be held in Geneva from 1 to 26 July 2013;

17. Welcome the achievements of entities responsible for culture in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Andean Community of Nations, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA), and reaffirm our commitment to work together in the integration process, promoting the synergies among them;

18. Welcome the meetings held in the framework of CELAC on regional and subregional integration mechanisms and call for culture to be given a higher profile at such meetings, in order to contribute to its full integration into sustainable development policies;

19. Welcome the recommendations made by filmmakers, authorities and experts gathered at the Latin American and Caribbean Film Festival, held at Isla Margarita, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in October 2012, regarding the importance of audiovisual archives in terms of heritage and content, initiatives for the creation of new television channels dealing with fiction films and documentaries, and the establishment of study groups for production and training programme projects, among other subjects;

20. Support the ongoing processes for the development of cultural information systems for disseminating and highlighting the important role played by culture in the economies and social development of our countries, by providing us with important elements for the design of public policies. We welcome the relationship established between different experiences and call for efforts to be made to develop a system that reaches all members of CELAC;

21. Welcome the Caribbean Cultural Corridor initiative as a project that facilitates contact among all our countries for the creation of a sociocultural space for the development of activities that stimulate exchange, promote the cultural economy, facilitate the marketing of cultural products and enhance means of communication and transportation between our countries for the well-being of our communities, and urge all the members of CELAC to join this initiative;

22. Express our appreciation to UNESCO for the historical support given to the Forum of Ministers of Culture through its Regional Bureau for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean and, in particular, the assistance of its technical secretariat;

23. Decide to work for the gradual integration of the Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Meeting of Ministers of Culture of CELAC into a single mechanism, starting at the meeting to be held in 2014;

24. Resolve that, as from that meeting, the Meetings of Ministers of Culture of CELAC shall take responsibility for the activities of the Forum of Ministers of

Culture, the agreements reached within that framework and the continuity of the projects and programmes carried out to date by the Forum and its meetings;

25. Agree to establish a Working Group to develop the vision and mission of the Meetings of Ministers of Culture of CELAC and its procedures, in accordance with the CELAC rules of procedure, and to make proposals with a view to strengthening cultural-economic cooperation among the members of CELAC. This Group shall contribute to the work of the CELAC Working Group on Cooperation. The outcome of the work of this Group shall be submitted to the meeting of CELAC national coordinators to be held in Havana, Cuba, in November 2013;

26. Express our appreciation to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for hosting the Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as for the full organization of the second Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) in 2014, and also express our appreciation to the Republic of Cuba for agreeing to organize the 2015 Meeting;

27. Welcome the holding of the sixth World Summit on Arts and Culture, which will be organized by the National Council on Culture and the Arts of Chile and the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) in Santiago, Chile, from 13 to 16 January 2014. We welcome the interest of Chile in the participation of the countries members of the Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean, and of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States;

28. Recognize the significance of CARIFESTA as a space for the promotion of integration and the marketing of our cultural products, and support the invitation by the Government of Suriname to ensure that our countries are amply represented at that event;

29. Pay tribute to President Hugo Chávez for his unwavering dedication to the sovereignty and integration of our nations and to the promotion of solidarity among the peoples of our region. We express sincere condolences to his family, to the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and to the Venezuelan people, to which he dedicated his life. For CELAC, of which he was one of the principal founders and promoters, his example will stimulate us to redouble our efforts to achieve unity;

30. Express our profound gratitude to the Republic of Suriname for having assumed the Presidency of the Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean since the end of July 2011, as well as for its efforts and the facilities provided for the convening of the joint meeting of the nineteenth Forum of Ministers of Culture and Officials in Charge of Cultural Policies of Latin America and the Caribbean and the first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

Paramaribo, Suriname, 15 March 2013

United Nations A/67/856

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 May 2013
English
Original: English and Spanish

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 15
Culture of peace

Note verbale dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations, as that of the country serving as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and would be grateful if the Executive Office of the Secretary-General would circulate the present note and the communiqué of the Commur ity of Latin American and Caribbean States on the acts of terrorism in Boston, United States of America, issued on 17 April 2013 (see annex) as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, entitled "Culture of Peace".

13-32306 (E) 070513 070513

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Communiqué of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States on the acts of terrorism in Boston, United States of America

Havana, 17 April 2013

The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States has learned of the acts of terrorism which took place in Boston, United States of America, on 15 April 2013, claiming lives and leaving over 100 wounded among the civilian population.

The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, expressing its condolences to the Government and people of the United States of America, and particularly to the families of the victims, reiterates its strongest condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, whatever its motivation, and wherever, by whomever and however committed.

United Nations A/67/857

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 158 (a)
Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Financing arrangements for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By its resolution 66/276 on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), the General Assembly appropriated for UNDOF the total amount of $47,990,600 for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, inclusive of $45,992,000 for the maintenance of the Force, $1,895,100 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and $103,500 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy. The resources approved by the Assembly for UNDOF provided for the maintenance of 1,047 military contingent personnel and a civilian component of 46 international staff and 110 national staff.

2. During the 2012/13 period, the security situation in the Syrian Arab Republic has further deteriorated, to the extent that it has begun to have an impact on the operations of UNDOF. A number of incidents occurred in the area of separation and in the area of limitation on the Bravo side, which placed the safety and security of UNDOF personnel and assets at substantial risk. The evolving situation on the ground has significantly affected the ability of UNDOF to implement its mandate of maintaining the ceasefire and ensuring that it is observed, as prescribed in the Protocol to the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces and in accordance with Security Council resolution 350 (1974). In response to these developments, UNDOF relocated its civilian personnel from Damascus to Camp Faouar in order to mitigate the security risks to its personnel and assets, resulting in the construction of additional office and residential accommodation in Camp Faouar and the upgrade and enhancement of existing security infrastructure in the compound. In addition, the ongoing security situation has resulted in a change in the classification of the duty station, which has in turn resulted in the implementation of additional related entitlements for international and national staff.

3. The additional requirements, which have resulted from the ongoing security situation in the mission area, are currently estimated at $8,593,100, of which

13-32263 (E) 150513

Please recycle

$619,900 can be accommodated through the reprioritization of the utilization of approved resources for the 2012/13 period, resulting in additional requirements of $7,973,200 gross ($7,787,100 net) (see table).

Additional resource requirements for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Apportionment (2012/13)	*Total projected expenditure (2012/13)*	*Variance*	
			Amount	*Percentage*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3) = (1) - (2)*	*(4) = (3)÷(1)*
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	–	–	–	–
Military contingents	23 380.8	22 796.3	584.5	2.5
United Nations police	–	–	–	–
Formed police units	–	–	–	–
Subtotal	**23 380.8**	**22 796.3**	**584.5**	**2.5**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	7 553.7	9 235.8	(1 682.1)	(22.3)
National staff	2 665.8	4 140.8	(1 475.0)	(55.3)
United Nations Volunteers	–	–	–	–
General temporary assistance	41.0	201.0	(160.0)	(390.2)
Subtotal	**10 260.5**	**13 577.6**	**(3 317.1)**	**(32.3)**
Operational costs				
Government-provided personnel	–	–	–	–
Civilian electoral observers	–	–	–	–
Consultants	20.5	20.0	0.5	2.4
Official travel	443.4	456.0	(12.6)	(2.8)
Facilities and infrastructure	6 280.5	10 568.1	(4 287.6)	(68.3)
Ground transportation	2 850.3	2 843.4	6.9	0.2
Air transportation	–	–	–	–
Naval transportation	–	–	–	–
Communications	911.6	896.2	15.4	1.7
Information technology	630.7	640.5	(9.8)	(1.6)
Medical	484.5	471.9	12.6	2.6
Special equipment	137.7	597.7	(460.0)	(334.1)
Other supplies, services and equipment	591.5	1 097.5	(506.0)	(85.5)
Quick-impact projects	–	–	–	–
Subtotal	**12 350.7**	**17 591.3**	**(5 240.6)**	**(42.4)**

Category	Apportionment (2012/13) (1)	Total projected expenditure (2012/13) (2)	Variance Amount (3)=(1)-(2)	Variance Percentage (4)=(3)÷(1)
Gross requirements	**45 992.0**	**53 965.2**	**(7 973.2)**	**(17.3)**
Staff assessment income	1 062.7	1 248.8	(186.1)	(17.5)
Net requirements	**44 929.3**	**52 716.4**	**(7 787.1)**	**(17.3)**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	–	–	–	–
Total requirements	**45 992.0**	**53 965.2**	**(7 973.2)**	**(17.3)**

4. Accordingly, the projected revised requirements for the maintenance of UNDOF would amount to $53,965,200 gross ($52,716,400 net) for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, representing an increase of $7,973,200 gross ($7,787,100 net) over the appropriation of $45,992,000 gross ($44,929,300 net) approved by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Force in its resolution 66/276.

5. The additional resource requirements of $1,682,100 for international staff are attributable to the approval of danger pay effective 1 June 2012 and to the reclassification of the duty station by the International Civil Service Commission from "C" to "E" effective 1 January 2013.

6. The additional requirements of $1,475,000 for national staff are attributable to the approval of danger pay effective 1 June 2012 and to the special measures approved by the Office of Human Resources Management. The special measures for national staff included a 40 per cent non-pensionable bonus for the period from May to July 2012 and the denomination of national salary scales in United States dollars, effective 1 August 2012, based on the United Nations operational exchange rate of 49.30 Syrian pounds per United States dollar.

7. The additional requirements of $160,000 under general temporary assistance are attributable to the proposed establishment of two temporary positions, of Senior Adviser to the Force Commander at the P-5 level and of Security Information Analyst at the P-3 level, in the Office of the Force Commander as a result of the prevailing security situation in the mission area. These temporary positions would be required to strengthen the capacity of the Force to respond to the increased demand for reporting requirements to Headquarters in connection with the ongoing security situation and to augment the Force's capacity to undertake security and threat analysis and assessments. The proposed establishment of these positions is included in the budget for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (A/67/705, paras. 20 and 21).

8. The additional requirements of $12,600 for official travel are attributable to the deployment of seven additional staff from other offices on temporary duty assignments to provide urgent security and logistical support to UNDOF.

9. The additional requirements of $4,287,600 for facilities and infrastructure are attributable to: (a) the upgrading of existing security infrastructure; (b) the construction of additional office space and residential accommodation in Camp

Faouar in connection with the relocation of 110 civilian staff from Damascus to the Camp compound; and (c) the redeployment of 30 military contingent personnel from the logistics battalion to reinforce the UNDOF headquarters reserve company.

10. The additional requirements of $9,800 under information technology are attributable to the acquisition of additional equipment related to the relocation of staff to Camp Faouar and Camp Ziouani, owing to the security situation.

11. The additional requirements of $460,000 for special equipment are attributable to the acquisition of binoculars and night-vision equipment to enhance the Force's observation capability in its area of operations in order to respond to changes in the security situation.

12. The additional requirements of $506,000 under other supplies, services and equipment are attributable to freight costs for the internal movement of equipment obtained from the strategic deployment stocks in the Global Service Centre and of surplus medical equipment transferred from the United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste. The estimate also includes requirements for 15 individual contractors on the Alpha and Bravo sides to function as drivers for heavy vehicles. In addition, as a result of the relocation of various support and camp services functions to the Alpha side, the estimate also includes requirements for 10 individual contractors to provide those services.

13. Taking into account the related opinion of the Advisory Committee on requests for revised appropriations (A/59/734, para. 8), the Secretariat considers the circumstances of this request as exceptional, owing to the fact that: (a) the additional requirements relate to cash resources for the payment of danger pay to international and national staff, for payments related to the reclassification of the duty station from "C" to "E", and for national staff salaries and related costs, which have been denominated in United States dollars effective 1 August 2012, for which no provisions were made in the 2012/13 budget; and (b) the approved budget for UNDOF does not have the capacity to absorb the additional requirements, which represent 17.3 per cent of its total budget for the 2012/13 period.

14. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the Force are:**

(a) **To appropriate the amount of $7,973,200 for the maintenance of the Force for the 12-month period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013, in addition to the amount of $45,992,000 already appropriated for the same period for the maintenance of the Force under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 66/276;**

(b) **To assess the total amount in paragraph (a) above, in addition to the amount of $45,992,000 already assessed for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013.**

United Nations A/67/858

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 146

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Justin **Kisoka** (United Republic of Tanzania)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2012, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 24th and resumed 27th meetings, on 8 March and 6 May 2013. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/67/SR.24 and 27/Add.1).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 9 November 2012 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee transmitting the report of the Senior Advisory Group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/289 to consider rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues (A/C.5/67/10);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Senior Advisory Group on rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues (A/67/713);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/67/749).

13-32496 (E) 080513

Please recycle

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/67/L.33

4. At its resumed 27th meeting, on 6 May, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee adopted a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Senior Advisory Group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/289 to consider rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues" (A/C.5/67/L.33) without a vote (see para. 7).

5. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the Chair of the Committee and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support made statements.

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Fiji (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the European Union, the United States of America, India, Togo and Japan.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Senior Advisory Group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/289 to consider rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues

The General Assembly,

Recalling section VI of its resolution 65/289 of 30 June 2011,

Having considered the report of the Senior Advisory Group established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/289 to consider rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues,[1] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Senior Advisory Group[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Senior Advisory Group[1] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Senior Advisory Group;[2]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

3. *Approves* the conclusions and recommendations (which are summarized in section IV) in the report of the Senior Advisory Group, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their implementation in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, as set forth in sections I and II below;

I
Rotation

4. *Notes* that the establishment of a typical rotation period for contingent personnel does not infringe upon the authority of contributing countries to decide on the frequency of rotation for their units deployed to United Nations peacekeeping missions;

5. *Decides*, upon the request of any troop- or police-contributing country that currently contributes less than 3 per cent of contingent personnel (as deployed as at 31 December 2012) to United Nations peacekeeping, to exempt from the application of the recommendation contained in paragraph 108 (b) of the report of the Senior Advisory Group individual units currently deployed with rotation periods shorter than 12 months, and permits those units to maintain their existing rotation arrangements with the United Nations until 30 June 2015;

[1] A/C.5/67/10.
[2] A/67/713.
[3] A/67/749.

6. *Also decides* to exempt the rotation of naval forces from the recommendation contained in paragraph 108 (b) of the report of the Senior Advisory Group upon the request of the individual troop-contributing country;

7. *Recalls* that, as summarized in paragraph 108 (b) of its report, the Senior Advisory Group recommended that the Secretary-General may determine operational circumstances and requirements that may demand rotation periods shorter than 12 months, and, in that regard, requests the Secretary-General, after considering comments received from troop- and police-contributing countries and other Member States, including, inter alia, on how to address existing legal impediments, to submit to the General Assembly prior to the conclusion of the second part of its resumed sixty-seventh session a report setting out the criteria by which he would make such determinations in the future;

II
Absent or non-functional major equipment

8. *Recalls* that the vast majority of peacekeeping personnel in the field are performing with great diligence and professionalism, enduring hardship and danger in the cause of peace;

9. *Notes* that each deployed unit may operate under a separate memorandum of understanding if so requested by the troop- or police-contributing country;

10. *Stresses* that the evaluation of contingent-owned equipment and its impact on the ability of the unit to perform its duties should be on the unit basis;

11. *Recalls* paragraphs 11 to 14 of the report of the Secretary-General, requests the Secretary-General to implement the recommendation contained in subparagraph 108 (c) of the report of the Senior Advisory Group with the following considerations:

(a) No deduction will be applied until after two consecutive unsatisfactory quarterly contingent-owned equipment verification reports, and in any case not before 31 October 2013, in order to provide contributing countries with sufficient opportunity to address shortfalls;

(b) No deduction will be made for major equipment that is absent or non-functional for reasons deemed by the Secretariat to be beyond the control of the troop- or police-contributing country;

(c) No deduction will be made related to absent or non-functional vehicles unless over 10 per cent of the vehicles specified in relevant memorandums of understanding are absent or non-functional;

(d) Deduction on account of absent or non-functional contingent-owned equipment shall not exceed 35 per cent of reimbursements for any unit in any case;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to notify expeditiously the permanent missions of troop- and police-contributing countries, in writing, in the case of absent or non-functional equipment, as specified in the relevant memorandums of understanding, with a description of absent or non-functional equipment and its associated contingent, in order for troop- and police-contributing countries to undertake corrective measures to fulfil their obligations in this regard.

United Nations A/67/859–S/2013/266

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 May 2013
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 5 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I wish to inform you that the Israeli air force has continued to violate Lebanese airspace, intensifying its incursions over Lebanon in the last few days. Such activities are a blatant violation of my country's sovereignty and the relevant international resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). They are also a clear infringement of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and provisions of international law.

I reiterate my Government's commitment to its obligations under international resolutions and, on behalf of my Government, call on the Security Council to condemn those violations in the strongest possible terms and prevail on Israel to end its violations of Lebanese sovereignty, whether in the air, at sea or on land, and implement all of its obligations under Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-32475 (E) 070513 070513

Please recycle

United Nations A/67/859*–S/2013/266*

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 May 2013
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 5 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to inform you that the Israeli air force has continued to violate Lebanese airspace, intensifying its incursions over Lebanon in the last few days. Such activities are a blatant violation of my country's sovereignty and the relevant international resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). They are also a clear infringement of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and provisions of international law.

I reiterate my Government's commitment to its obligations under international resolutions and, on behalf of my Government, call on the Security Council to condemn those violations in the strongest possible terms and prevail on Israel to end its violations of Lebanese sovereignty, whether in the air, at sea or on land, and implement all of its obligations under Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons on 13 May 2013.

13-32475* (E) 130513

Please recycle

United Nations A/67/860–S/2013/270

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 May 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 33
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 6 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I wish to draw your attention to the reports on the Israeli air strikes against Syria, on 3 and 5 May 2013.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its deep concern over and strong condemnation of such provocative and unwarranted attacks. We believe that such criminal and irresponsible acts should be addressed by the international community, especially the United Nations and its relevant organs, for the following reasons:

- These blatant acts of aggression are serious violations of international law, particularly the norms and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including its Article 2 (4) on the prohibition of the use of force against any Member State.
- Nothing can justify the use of force and act of aggression against a sovereign State, and the aggressor must be held accountable for any consequences stemming from this condemnable and illegitimate act which endangers regional and international peace and security.
- It is obvious that the attacks represent a serious escalation of tension and have grave destabilizing effects in the region.

I would urge you to address this issue of great concern to the United Nations based on the mandate bestowed upon you by the Charter for the purpose of the maintenance of regional and international peace and security and the prevention of further acts of aggression.

It would be appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-32611 (E) 090513

Please recycle

United Nations A/67/861–S/2013/275

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
10 May 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda items 33 and 34

Prevention of armed conflict

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Letter dated 8 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I draw your attention to the ongoing violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan recorded for the month of April 2013 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Garen **Nazarian**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-33054 (E) 170513

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 8 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 1-30 April 2013

1. On the borderline of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic:

   Total number of violations — 1,251

   Total number of shots ~ 5,518

   AK ~ 3,818, PK ~ 937, SVD ~ 454, DSHK ~ 62, RPK ~ 117, Black Arrow ~ 7, Istiglal ~ 101, Utyos ~ 21, NSVP ~ 1

2. On the borderline of the Republic of Armenia (see table below):

   Total number of violations — 179

   Total number of shots ~ 1,819

   AK ~ 704, PK ~ 826, SVD ~ 191, DSHK ~ 35, RPK ~ 10, Istiglal ~ 1, Black Arrow ~ 52

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
1.	1 April	Chinari	0030	AK	4	
2.			2000	DSHK	10	
3.		N. Karmiraghbyur	1125	AK	1	
4.		Barekamavan	1550		20	
5.			1650	SVD	10	
6.		Arevaberd	1815	AK	15	
7.		Voskevan	1955		20	
8.	2 April	Vahan	1830	PK	3	
9.		N. Karmiraghbyur	1715	AK	1	
10.		Movses	1935		2	
11.		Voskepar	2000		10	
12.	3 April	N. Karmiraghbyur	0735	AK	2	
13.			1710		1	
14.		Chinari	1300	PK	25	

Abbreviations: PK, Kalashnikov machine gun; SVD, 7.9-mm sniper weapon; AK, Kalashnikov rifle; DSHK, 12.7-mm machine gun; RPK, 5.45-mm machine gun; Istiglal, 14.5-mm machine gun; Black Arrow, 12.7-mm sniper weapon; Utyos, 12.7-mm machine gun; NSVP, 12.7-mm machine gun.

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
15.				AK	15	
16.			2145	PK	6	
17.		Dovegh	1315	PK	4	
18.		Chinari	2255		10	
19.	4 April	Agarak	1120	AK	3	
20.		Chinari	1135	PK	1	
21.			1930	AK	10	
22.			2240		30	
23.		Voskepar	2005		2	
24.		M. Shamiri	2225		15	
25.	5 April	Chinari	1620	AK	2	
26.			1730	SVD	3	
27.		Berqaber	2030	Istiglal	1	
28.			2200	AK	1	
29.	6 April	Berqaber	0007	AK	1	
30.			2240		2	
31.				PK	1	
32.		Bozlu	1600	DSHK	25	
33.				PK	30	
34.		Chinari	1730	SVD	2	
35.	7 April	Aygepar	0850	AK	1	
36.		Arevaberd	0925	PK	5	
37.		Berqaber	1210	SVD	30	
38.		Sevakavan	1240	AK	3	
39.			2135		1	
40.		Chinari	1245	SVD	1	
41.			1455		2	
42.			1455		2	
43.	8 April	N. Karmiraghbyur	0125	AK	10	

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
44.		Chinari	0440	PK	10	
45.			1000	AK	2	
46.		Mehrab	1025		7	
47.		Berqaber	1100	SVD	2	
48.		Kayanavan	1720	AK	1	
49.	9 April	N. Karmiraghbyur	0130	AK	2	
50.	10 April	Berqaber	1005	SVD	2	
51.		Voskepar	1300	AK	2	
52.		Chinari	2020	SVD	3	
53.		N. Karmiraghbyur	2345	AK	20	
54.	12 April	Berqaber	0245	AK	3	
55.			1720	PK	20	
56.					10	
57.			1920		6	
58.			2020		10	
59.			2220	AK	3	
60.			2255	SVD	2	
61.		Baghanis	1030	AK	4	
62.		Dovegh	1055	SVD	1	
63.		Paravaqar	1130	AK	3	
64.			2230		5	
65.			2320		2	
66.		Berdavan	2240	PK	4	
67.		Kiranc	2350	AK	5	
68.	13 April	Chinari	1935	PK	5	
69.			2315	AK	3	
70.		Mehrab	2010	SVD	30	
71.	14 April	Berqaber	0250	AK	7	
72.		Chinari	1120	SVD	3	

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
73.			2140	AK	3	
74.			2150	SVD	3	
75.			2200		2	
76.		Mehrab	1345	SVD	3	
77.				AK	5	
78.			1920	PK	2	
79.		Dovegh	1505	SVD	3	
80.			1530		2	
81.		N. Karmiraghbyur	2340	AK	2	
82.	15 April	Chinari	0840	SVD	2	
83.			1600		3	
84.			1610	AK	3	
85.			2030	SVD	4	
86.		Movses	1505	PK	1	
87.		Paravaqar	1845	AK	6	
88.		N. Karmiraghbyur	2235	AK	5	
89.	16 April	Aygehovit	0030	PK	5	
90.		Vazashen		AK	12	
91.		Aygepar	1740		4	
92.			1740		3	
93.		Agarak	2015		10	
94.	17 April	Chinari	0800	AK	65	
95.				PK	90	
96.			1125	SVD	2	
97.			1725		2	
98.			1740		3	
99.			2135		3	
100.		Vazashen	1730	AK	10	
101.		Aygepar	1815		6	

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
102.	18 April	Chinari	0030	PK	50	
103.			1540		5	
104.			1600	AK	10	
105.			1620	Black Arrow	3	
106.				AK	9	
107.		Aygepar	0430	AK	5	
108.		Vazashen	1430	SVD	1	
109.		Movses	2325	PK	11	
110.	19 April	Azatamut	0215	AK	5	
111.		Aygepar	0855		2	
112.			2115		1	
113.		Chinari	1230	SVD	2	
114.		Vazashen	1540		10	
115.			2205	AK	55	
116.		Voskepar	1615		7	
117.		Mehrab	2220		6	
118.				SVD	8	
119.	20 April	Chinari	0110	SVD	3	
120.		Aygepar	2030	AK	1	
121.		Vazashen	2130		10	
122.			2230	PK	10	
123.	21 April	Chinari	1315	SVD	5	
124.			1520	Black Arrow	2	
125.			2005		3	
126.	22 April	Khachik	0000	AK	6	
127.		Aygepar	0045		1	
128.			1540	SVD	5	
129.		Mehrab	1330	PK	6	
130.		Vazashen	2315	AK	20	

No.	Date	Direction	Time	Type of weapon	Ammunition	Results of Violations
131.	23 April	Chinari	2030	PK	10	
132.				SVD	5	
133.		Agarak	2130	PK	3	
134.			2245		15	
135.			2350	RPK	10	
136.	24 April	Agarak	0015	PK	6	The private Israel Tarverdyan was wounded in combat by the Azerbaijani side at 2230 near the village of Ashaghi Seydakhmedli, on the border with Azerbaijan.
137.			0030-0040		40	
138.			1820		30	
139.			1920-1940	Black Arrow	4	
140.				PK	300	
141.			2220		5	
142.			2235		4	
143.			2355		12	
144.		Vazashen	0345	AK	15	
145.			1145	SVD	10	
146.		Chinari	0400	AK	25	
147.			2330	Black Arrow	7	
148.		Aygehovit	2030	PK	4	
149.		Berqaber	2145		10	
150.	25 April	Berqaber	0120	AK	4	
151.		Mehrab	0910		20	
152.			1350		2	
153.		Chinari	1150	SVD	3	
154.		Agarak	1715	PK	3	
155.			1855		4	
156.			1910		10	
157.	26 April	Chinari	1030	Black Arrow	2	
158.			1615		6	
159.			2245	AK	40	

No.	*Date*	*Direction*	*Time*	*Type of weapon*	*Ammunition*	*Results of Violations*
160.			2330		30	
161.			2350		30	
162.					3	
163.	27 April	Chinari	1125	Black Arrow	10	
164.			1130		3	
165.			1730		11	
166.			2340	SVD	10	
167.				PK	40	
168.		Aygedzor	2000	AK	15	
169.	28 April	Vazashen	1100	SVD	1	The private Zohrab Ghazaryan was wounded in combat by the Azerbaijani side at 0640 near the village of Karakhanbeyli, on the border with Azerbaijan.
170.	29 April	Chinari	1215	Black Arrow	1	The private Haykazun Tadevosyan was wounded in combat by the Azerbaijani side at 1520 near the village of Verin Chaylu, on the border with Azerbaijan.
171.	30 April	Barcruni	1205	SVD	3	
172.		N. Karmiraghbyur	1540	AK	5	
173.		Paravaqar	1550		2	

United Nations A/67/862

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 111 (h)
Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Section II, paragraph 27, of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964 provides that the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development shall be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and that the appointment shall be confirmed by the General Assembly.

2. Pursuant to that resolution, the Secretary-General proposes to appoint Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi of Kenya as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for a term of office of four years, beginning on 1 September 2013 and ending on 31 August 2017.

3. The Secretary-General trusts that the General Assembly will confirm this appointment.

13-33145 (E) 130513

Please recycle

United Nations A/67/863

General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 171
Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

Financing arrangements for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2013

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The resources sought for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2013 are required for the implementation of the Mission's mandate. The proposed commitment authority provides for the deployment of 9,141 military contingent personnel, 206 United Nations police officers, 962 formed police unit personnel, 415 international staff, 647 national staff and 250 United Nations Volunteers by the end of the funding period. The civilian human resources component includes 23 positions to augment the existing capacity of United Nations Headquarters in providing oversight and expert assistance for the new Mission.

2. The present note contains a request for commitment authority, with assessment for the period from 25 April to 31 December 2013 in the amount of $454,426,300, inclusive of the $83,690,200 previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to meet costs related to MINUSMA for the period 25 April to 30 June 2013.

II. Mandate and planned results

Overall

3. By its resolution 2100 (2013) of 25 April 2013, the Security Council established the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali. The Council requested the Secretary-General to subsume the United Nations Office in Mali (UNOM) into MINUSMA, with MINUSMA assuming responsibility for the discharge of the Office's mandated tasks, as established by the Council in its

Please recycle

resolution 2085 (2012) of 20 December 2012. This involves undertaking, inter alia, the following tasks: providing support for the planning, deployment and operations of AFISMA; providing support in critical areas with respect to the extension of Malian State authority, including rule-of-law and security institutions, mine action, the promotion of national dialogue, regional cooperation, security sector reform, human rights and the initial demobilization, disarmament and reintegration of former combatants; and ensuring that international humanitarian and human rights law is adhered to. In addition, in paragraph 1 of resolution 2085 (2012), the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to assist the transitional authorities of Mali in the preparation of a transitional road map, including the conduct of an electoral process.

4. Furthermore, the Council decided that authority would be transferred from the African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) to MINUSMA on 1 July 2013, at which point MINUSMA would commence the implementation of its mandate as defined in paragraphs 16 and 17 of the resolution, for an initial period of 12 months. The tasks under the mandate would include: the stabilization of key population centres and the re-establishment of State authority throughout the country; support for the implementation of the transitional road map, including the national political dialogue and the electoral process; the protection of civilians and United Nations personnel; the promotion and protection of human rights; support for humanitarian assistance; support for cultural preservation; and support for national and international justice.

5. The Security Council requested the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed on the situation in Mali and the implementation of the mandate of MINUSMA and to report to the Council within 45 days of the adoption of resolution 2100 (2013) and then every three months from 1 July 2013. The report is to include updates on the security situation, the priority political elements on the implementation of the transitional road map, relevant information on the progress, promotion and protection of human rights and international humanitarian law and a review of the troop level, force generation and deployment of all of the constituent elements of MINUSMA.

6. The Mission is mandated to help the Security Council to achieve an overall objective, namely, in support of the transitional authorities of Mali, to stabilize the key population centres, especially those in the north of the country, and, in this context, to deter threats and take active steps to prevent the return of armed elements to those areas; and to support the implementation of the transitional road map while promoting and protecting human rights and supporting humanitarian assistance, cultural preservation and national and international justice. The delivery of the mandate will be undertaken in close coordination with the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States.

7. The Head of Mission will also serve as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and will have overall responsibility for the coordination of United Nations activities on the ground. Headquartered in Bamako, the Mission will operate throughout Mali, with a significant presence in major population centres, including Gao, Timbuktu and Kidal.

8. The Council decided that MINUSMA would comprise a maximum of 11,200 military personnel, including reserve battalions capable of deploying rapidly within the country as and when required, and 1,440 police personnel. The Council also

welcomed the commitment of the Secretary-General, as outlined in paragraph 81 of his report (S/2013/189), to take all possible steps to accelerate the deployment of civilian and military capabilities in Mali, in order to best respond to the Council's expectations and the needs of the Malian people. Further to the decision of the Council, upon full deployment MINUSMA is expected to have 11,200 troops, composed of infantry battalions and enabling capacities, including in the areas of logistics, transportation, engineering, signals, military police, aviation and medical care, in addition to 1,440 police personnel, comprising 320 who are to serve as individual police officers and 1,120 who are to be deployed in eight formed police units. It is expected that more than 50 per cent of the authorized military and police personnel will be deployed by 1 July 2013, owing largely to the rehatting of current AFISMA personnel.

9. Pursuant to paragraphs 8 and 9 of section VI of General Assembly resolution 64/269, on 1 May 2013 the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concurred with the request for authorization to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed $83,690,200 gross ($82,920,000 net) for the period from 25 April to 30 June 2013 to meet critical logistical and personnel requirements related to the establishment of MINUSMA and the assumption of responsibility for the discharge of the mandated tasks of UNOM. Financial details of the commitment authority authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee are set out in the annex to the present note.

10. Approval and assessment of $454,426,300, the total amount of commitment authority for the period from 25 April to 31 December 2013, will provide for the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund to be replenished for a total of $83,690,200 authorized by the Advisory Committee for the immediate needs of MINUSMA.

Planning assumptions and support initiatives

11. The Mission's support concept is based on the principles of the global field support strategy and includes the extensive use of contractors, troops and Member States for service delivery, a light support structure focused on contracts management, and the co-location of civilian, military and police in modularized camps. To facilitate the implementation of its mandate, the Mission will be deployed in phases.

12. Existing capacities in nearby United Nations missions and supply lines will be leveraged in an effort to reduce the deployment footprint. In this regard, administrative support functions and assistance with logistical support will be provided in coordination with other missions, including the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire and the United Nations Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy.

13. This initial resourcing proposal includes requirements to deploy 10,309 military and police personnel and to recruit 1,312 civilians by 31 December 2013. Of the civilians recruited during the initial phase, 1,289 will be deployed across substantive, support and security functions and the remaining 23 across the Department of Field Support, the Department of Management and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at Headquarters to support the Mission during that phase.

14. Security conditions on the ground and the scarcity of critical resources, including water, accommodation and life support, will require MINUSMA personnel to work and live in integrated secured compounds and to accept basic living conditions, including limited use of water.

15. The construction programme is expected to span up to three years, with a significant element commencing in the initial funding period. The initial funding request represents what is achievable in the initial period of operations and includes the first phase of construction of the following: the Mission headquarters, a logistics base, three regional offices, 13 team sites, 12 military camps to accommodate uniformed personnel and airfield improvements at each of the three regional offices.

16. In addition to the implementation of the construction programme, the proposed provision to cover operational costs will provide for capacity to procure the first phase of required equipment, including the acquisition of 590 vehicles, 28 generators and 965 computing devices. In the light of the mandate of MINUSMA, as well as challenges including the potential for asymmetric threats on long supply routes, its landlocked position and significant geographical area, a robust dedicated air transportation capacity is required. Funding is also proposed for the deployment of 23 fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft phased across the period.

17. The funding proposal has been developed on the basis of key planning parameters associated with circumstances on the ground, recent experience with other missions and immediate resourcing requirements for the initial deployment of the Mission. Detailed planning will continue over the coming weeks as deployment accelerates, forming the basis for developing the 2013/14 budget proposal for MINUSMA, to be presented to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Cost estimates (1 July to 31 December 2013)*
Military and police personnel	
Military observers	
Military contingents	115 756.6
United Nations police	4 689.7
Formed police units	13 414.1
Subtotal	**133 860.4**
Civilian personnel	
International staff	
National staff	
United Nations Volunteers	3 818.3
General temporary assistance	43 884.3
Subtotal	**47 702.6**
Operational costs	
Government-provided personnel	
Civilian electoral observers	
Consultants	58.7
Official travel	1 070.5
Facilities and infrastructure	57 009.5

Category	*Cost estimates (1 July to 31 December 2013)*
Ground transportation	27 783.5
Air transportation	51 213.9
Communications	17 861.2
Information technology	5 921.3
Medical	2 556.7
Special equipment	1 826.5
Other supplies, services and equipment	23 271.3
Quick-impact projects	600.0
Subtotal	**189 173.1**
Gross requirements	**370 736.1**
Staff assessment income	3 916.0
Net requirements	**366 820.1**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	–
Total requirements	**370 736.1**

18. Military and police personnel requirements of $133.9 million comprise 36 per cent of the proposed funding and will support the phased deployment of 10,309 uniformed personnel by 31 December 2013. This assumes the emplacement of 8,100 personnel on 1 July 2013. It is expected that the majority of the current AFISMA troops and police will be rehatted with the transfer of authority from AFISMA to MINUSMA, scheduled for 1 July 2013.

19. Civilian personnel requirements of $47.7 million comprise 13 per cent of the proposed funding and will provide for the recruitment of 1,312 civilian personnel by 31 December 2013. Taking into account a phased approach for recruitment, the proposal provides funding for a monthly average of 940 civilian personnel over the six-month period, which takes into consideration recruitment lead time and the phased deployment of the proposed positions.

20. Estimated operational costs of $189.2 million account for 51 per cent of the proposed funding. Of the requirements requested for operational costs, $87.4 million represents acquisitions of necessary start-up material and equipment for start-up facilities and infrastructure needs, including ground transportation and the acquisition of communications and information technology equipment. Facilities and infrastructure requirements comprise primarily the Mission's construction programme and the acquisition of prefabricated facilities and generators. The requirements for ground transportation represent primarily the purchase of light passenger and armoured vehicles, as well as vehicles for the handling of materials, and engineering and ground support equipment. The communications and information technology equipment acquisition plan for the period includes the purchase of computer devices, printers, servers and equipment for wireless local area networks, in addition to VHF/UHF equipment, transportable air traffic control towers and communications vans.

21. The new Mission will be dependent on aircraft to support its extended area of operations. In addition to the start-up costs identified above, the operational costs include $51.2 million for the rental and operation of fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft and the associated petrol, oil and lubricant and other related costs. By 31 December 2013, the Mission plans to have deployed 18 rotary-wing aircraft (6 commercial and 12 military), including utility, heavy lift and tactical capacities; and 5 fixed-wing aircraft (3 commercial and 2 military), with funding for 8,806 flight-hours.

22. The balance of $50.6 million included under operational costs will be used primarily for reimbursements to the troop- and police-contributing countries for self-sustainment, mine detection and clearing services and fuel requirements.

Human resources

Category	*Projected deployment as at 31 December 2013*
Military and police personnel	
Military contingents	9 141
United Nations police	206
Formed police units	962
Civilian personnel	
United Nations Volunteers	250
General temporary assistance	
International staff	415
National staff	
National Professional Officers	31
National General Service staff	616

Military and police personnel

23. On the basis of the current and anticipated deployment of uniformed personnel, the Mission expects to have deployed 9,141 military contingent personnel, 206 United Nations police and 962 formed police personnel by 31 December 2013. The requested funding provides for an average of 8,128 military contingent personnel, 194 United Nations police and 912 formed police personnel over the six-month period. This represents a realistic expectation of what the Mission will be able to deploy between 1 July and 31 December 2013 and is based upon a phased deployment to begin addressing the urgency of the situation in Mali.

Civilian personnel, 1 July to 31 December 2013

	International staff									
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
MINUSMA	4	21	75	96	196	–	392	647	250	1 289
New York										
Department of Field Support (planning coordination team)	–	1	3	1	–	1	6	–	–	6
Department of Field Support (Divisions)	–	–	4	–	–	1	5	–	–	5
Department of Management (Peacekeeping Financing Division)	–	–	1	–	–	1	2	–	–	2
Department of Peacekeeping Operations (integrated operations team)	–	1	4	–	–	–	5	–	–	5
Department of Peacekeeping Operations (Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions)	–	–	2	2	–	–	4	–	–	4
Department of Peacekeeping Operations (Office of Military Affairs)	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	1
Subtotal, New York	–	**2**	**15**	**3**	–	**3**	**23**	–	–	**23**
Total	**4**	**23**	**90**	**99**	**196**	**3**	**415**	**647**	**250**	**1 312**

24. The requirements for the Mission remain fluid and the proposed civilian positions have been identified as a broad complement of requirements. The civilian staffing requirement for the initial phase of the Mission has been developed with reference to historical deployment patterns and typical mission structures, expressly limited to what might be achievable in terms of deployment throughout the period. Commencing with the core leadership team, recruitment will proceed as planning and associated priorities are further developed with regard to functional components and individual roles.

25. Civilian staffing requirements projected for 1 July to 31 December 2013 total 1,289 positions deployed to MINUSMA and 23 positions at Headquarters to provide critical support and oversight for the Mission, comprising 415 international staff, 647 national staff and 250 United Nation Volunteers. This represents an average incumbency of 940 civilians (331 international, 442 national and 167 United Nations Volunteers) for the period. Civilian recruitment will be undertaken in an open and transparent process in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations, relying on established rosters to the extent possible.

26. The civilian component will comprise major substantive elements required to implement the mandates outlined in Security Council resolutions 2085 (2012) and 2100 (2013), including in the areas of political and civil affairs; human rights; elections; justice; corrections; security sector reform; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; and public information.

27. Within these themes it is expected that civilian staff will perform the following tasks: support the Dialogue and Reconciliation Commission and provide advisory and technical support for the design and conduct of the dialogue processes; assist in

developing modalities for the initial disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme; provide technical assistance and contribute to creating the political and security conditions conducive to the holding of elections; assist in the re-establishment of judicial and corrections institutions in areas in the north that were freed from armed groups; assist with the reform of the Malian security sector through the development of adequate policy, governance and oversight instruments; monitor compliance with human rights and international humanitarian law; and assist in carrying out a comprehensive reform of the Malian security sector, including mapping.

28. While recognizing the inherent challenges in providing support to uniformed personnel in the current climate, in particular in the northern part of the country, mission support arrangements reflect the principles of the global field support strategy, and existing capacities will be leveraged in order to achieve efficiencies and reduce new support requirements. In this regard, administrative support functions and assistance in coordinating logistics will be provided by other missions in the region.

29. Up until 31 December 2013, the support element of the Mission will undertake a wide range of activities, including providing administrative, logistical and technical support to the military, civilian police and other civilian substantive offices of MINUSMA in the implementation of the Mission's mandate.

30. This will include the establishment of mission infrastructure and related procurement activities; developing and putting in place the appropriate security and support arrangements; recruiting 1,312 civilian personnel; and providing direct support to the uniformed component of 10,309 personnel, including a significant proportion included within MINUSMA from 1 July 2013.

31. Key logistics and administrative functions will include mission support management, audit, contracts management, human resources, budget and finance, procurement, logistics, engineering, air and ground transport, movement control, communications and information technology, supply, medical, United Nations and contingent-owned equipment asset management, and cartography.

32. In addition to the 1,289 proposed civilian positions to be deployed to the Mission, a surge capacity of 23 international positions will be established in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Management at Headquarters to provide critical support and oversight for the Mission in its initial phase. While efforts have been made to absorb additional functions within the existing staffing, the significant size of the new Mission will give rise to immediate demands beyond the capacity of the existing levels of the resources of those departments at Headquarters. Therefore, dedicated resources are required to augment teams in the Office of Operations (integrated operations team), the Office of Military Affairs and the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as well as the logistics, personnel, finance and budget, and information and communications technology functions of the Department of Field Support and the Department of Management. A dedicated planning capacity for MINUSMA will also be established within the Department of Field Support.

III. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

33. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali are:**

(a) **Authorization for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the period from 25 April to 31 December 2013 in the amount of $454,426,300, inclusive of the amount of $83,690,200 previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which was for the period from 25 April to 30 June 2013;**

(b) **Assessment of the amount of $83,690,200 in paragraph (a) above for the period from 25 April to 30 June 2013;**

(c) **Assessment of the amount of $370,736,100, being the balance of the total amount in paragraph (a), for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2013.**

Annex

Financial resource requirements for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali for the period from 25 April to 30 June 2013

(Thousands of United States dollars, rounded)

Category	*25 April to 30 June 2013*
Military and police personnel	
Military observers	–
Military contingents	–
United Nations police	–
Formed police units	–
Subtotal	–
Civilian personnel	
International staff	–
National staff	–
United Nations Volunteers	395.3
General temporary assistance	8 847.6
Subtotal	**9 242.9**
Operational costs	
Government-provided personnel	–
Civilian electoral observers	–
Consultants	19.6
Official travel	323.3
Facilities and infrastructure	30 268.4
Ground transportation	16 772.8
Air transportation	7 316.3
Naval transportation	–
Communications	8 855.1
Information technology	4 375.6
Medical	574.3
Special equipment	64.4
Other supplies, services and equipment	5 877.5
Quick-impact projects	–
Subtotal	**74 447.3**
Gross requirements	**83 690.2**
Staff assessment income	769.3
Net requirements	**82 920.9**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	–
Total requirements	**83 690.2**

United Nations A/67/864

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 20
Sustainable development

Letter dated 17 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you a declaration of the eleventh Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting (see annex), entitled "Towards economic growth, stability and prosperity in Asia through sustainable development". The meeting was held in Dushanbe on 29 March 2013.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 20.

(*Signed*) Sirodjidin M. **Aslov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-33768 (E) 300513

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 17 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Dushanbe Declaration of the eleventh Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting
29 March 2013

Towards economic growth, stability and prosperity in Asia through sustainable development

We, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and other Heads of delegations from Member States of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), namely, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Kingdom of Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, the Republic of Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, the State of Kuwait, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Sultanate of Oman, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of the Philippines, the State of Qatar, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Singapore, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Kingdom of Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam gathered in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, for the eleventh ACD Ministerial Meeting on 29 March 2013;

In view of the in-depth discussion on important regional and international issues, and review of the role of the ACD and the progress made since the first ACD Summit, as well as the challenges and opportunities lying ahead and directions to pace up progress in various areas, we declare the following:

1. We recognize that our region has maintained overall peace and stability in recent years and that countries in the region have generally chosen to adopt policies of good-neighbourliness, friendship, dialogue, cooperation and common development. Many economies in the region have been booming, and Asia has become a major driving force for global economic growth and an indispensable force on the global arena. We reaffirm the need to enhance unity, expand cultural exchanges and deepen pragmatic cooperation to promote common development and prosperity and contribute even more to peace, stability and development in the world;

2. We reaffirm the commitment to cooperate in developmental endeavours by building upon Asia's potentials and strengths through expanding the existing cooperative frameworks. We reiterate the special role of the ACD whereby Asian Leaders and Ministers convene to exchange views and promote cooperation in various areas of mutual interest while upholding the constructive values of the ACD, namely, positive thinking, informality, voluntarism, non-institutionalization, openness, respect for diversity, the level of support of Member States, the evolving nature of the ACD, positive work and participation of Member States in various cooperation programmes;

3. We acknowledge the significance of regional cooperation as an essential mechanism to accelerate realization of the three pillars of sustainable development, which incl le social development, economic development and environmental protection, as well as stability in the Asian region, with its vast and diverse natural and human resources, rich and historical heritage and economic and social potential;

4. We appreciate the steps made by the Prime and Co-Prime Movers to realize important initiatives and involve ACD Member States in their implementation, which would further strengthen the ACD as an effective mechanism for regional economic cooperation;

5. We recognize the grave threat posed by maritime piracy to regional and international trade and economic development, and reiterate our joint commitment to combating such piracy through meaningful international cooperation, based on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. In this context, we note the United Arab Emirates' initiative to invite ACD Member States to participate in the third Global Conference on Combating Piracy, which will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates in the fourth quarter of 2013 in partnership between private and public sectors;

6. We express support to the position of the Human Rights Council as expressed in the resolution on religious intolerance, namely, the growing manifestation of intolerance based on religion or belief that can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations that may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels and, in this regard, emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as inter-faith and intercultural dialogues aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations. We commend all efforts in this regard, in particular the establishment of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICID) in Vienna;

7. We encourage ACD Member States to undertake common efforts for continued cooperation and consolidation in the area of sustainable development;

8. We realize that the population of the Asian region is a resource that can be harnessed by enhanced investments in health and education sectors and promoting rapid economic growth in order to provide productive employment for all. In order to deal with demographic change in a forward-looking way, we emphasize the need to systematically consider population trends and projections in our national, rural and urban development strategies and policies;

9. We are convinced that the international financial and economic crisis and the resulting downturn in global economic growth severely affect economies of Asian countries, inter alia, through decrease in trade and foreign direct investment and increased contractions and high costs of credit, thereby negatively impacting on the realization of the right to development, constraining social investment, deepening poverty and raising unemployment rates;

10. We recognize that the ACD region faces challenges to achieve poverty reduction and promotion of human development. We call for strengthening joint efforts to explore the possibility of setting up mechanisms for exchanges and cooperation in the region in order to promote poverty alleviation and create

conditions for sustainable development, and to address the issue of imbalances within the region;

11. We acknowledge that the ACD with its potential and pragmatic approaches should intensify its project-driven and project-orientated activities in various areas, including sustainable development, enhancing economic cooperation and promoting regional integration through vigorous intra-regional trade development, promotion of investment activity for bilateral and regional economic development, utilization and management of natural resources and exchange of technologies and information;

12. We realize that strengthening of partnerships and development of innovative sources of financing can play a role in complementing sources of financing for sustainable development. ACD Member States need significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources and effective use of financing in their efforts to promote sustainable development;

13. We recognize that it is imperative to achieve economic integration by various ways, inter alia, promoting free trade and investment and removing barriers to trade and investment among Asian countries. In this context, we invite ACD Member States to undertake initiatives to enhance the exchange of information, increase interaction among chambers and harmonize standards in relation to trade and investment;

14. We emphasize the need for ACD Member States to work together to meet challenges posed by climate change, enhance measures to promote climate change adaptation, improve natural disaster management, including disaster risk reduction, create conditions for mitigation of the effects of natural disasters and promote disaster risk reduction. We consider the establishment of the ACD Coordination Network among the early warning centres in the countries of the region to assist them in facing natural disasters as a necessary measure in providing humanitarian, financial and technological assistance to the affected countries. For this purpose, we propose that ACD Member States' experts on natural disasters meet in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, or any other country which is willing to host the meeting to discuss the establishment of the coordination network and make recommendations;

15. We see the need to take action at national, regional and international levels that aims to counter the effects of climate change, including dust and sandstorms, that negatively impact the whole world, in accordance with the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

16. We call on ACD Member States to review the outcomes of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with a target date of 2015, with a view towards understanding which goals have been achieved and which goals need to be addressed with focused solutions. We recognize that sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth in developing countries is a key requirement for eradicating poverty and hunger, and achieving the MDGs;

17. We note the global discussions on the post-2015 development agenda through various mechanisms and thematic consultations. We encourage ACD Member States in drafting the post-2015 development agenda in alignment with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) to be built on the MDGs and guided by a new development paradigm, which promotes human happiness and the well-being of

all life forms within a sustainable environment. We feel that inclusive growth and poverty eradication should be the main focus in the post-2015 development agenda;

18. We call upon ACD Member States to coordinate positions at international negotiations for developing a set of sustainable development goals as recommended in the outcome of the Rio+20 Conference. We reaffirm our belief that economic prosperity, social equity and environmental protection represent the key objectives in our pursuit of sustainable development;

19. We realize the necessity to ensure access of the people to health-care services, including to safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, vaccines and medical technologies, and through strengthening health infrastructure and systems towards universal health coverage, as well as raising public awareness on environmental and sanitation issues. We call to intensify dialogues and joint efforts to build joint prevention and control mechanisms against cross-border pandemics and the spread of epidemics, for example, through the provision of medical assistance or using regional and international frameworks for cooperation in the health area and epidemic control;

20. We consider green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication as one of the important tools available for achieving sustainable development. We support the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference on the green economy policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. We call upon ACD Member States to accumulate positive experiences in adopting green economy policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication for the voluntary exchanges of best practices as well as capacity-building in the different areas of sustainable development;

21. We underscore food security and sufficient nutrition to be an important component of sustainable development. In view of the predominantly agricultural economy in many Asian countries, we call to intensify dialogue on agricultural policies and practical agricultural techniques and enhance regional cooperation in the area of food security and nutrition, support to the agricultural and rural development sectors, the transfer of technologies and the exchange of knowledge;

22. We call on all ACD Member States to be alert to the fact that efforts in areas such as alternative energy, without proper consideration of the food supply situation, may have unintended consequences on food security;

23. We recognize that water is at the core of sustainable development, as it is closely linked to a number of key global challenges. We, therefore, reiterate the critical importance of water and sanitation in sustainable development and reaffirm the commitments regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation as well as the development of integrated water resource management, ensuring water recycling, capacity-building against drought, flooding, and disaster reduction, as well as rational and sustainable water use;

24. We highlight our commitment to the 2005-2015 International Decade for Action "Water for Life", and fully support Member States' efforts to realize the commitment, including through the mobilization of resources from all sources, capacity-building and technology transfer. We encourage participation of ACD Member States at the High-level International Conference on Water Cooperation, which will be held on 22 August 2013 in Dushanbe, in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution entitled "Implementation of the International

Year of Water Cooperation, 2013", and note the convening of the second Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on 19 and 20 May 2013;

25. We reiterate that the ACD is aimed at enhancing energy security and sustainability in the region. We reaffirm support for the implementation of national policies and strategies, based on individual national circumstances and development aspirations. We call for enhanced support for national initiatives and activities aimed at utilization of renewable energy sources as well as cleaner and energy efficient technologies, and encourage ACD Member States to diversify and use appropriate energy mix to meet their respective development needs. We take note of the Energy Action Plan, express appreciation to the Prime and Co-Prime Movers for their work, and call for its adoption by the next ACD Ministerial Meeting in November 2013. We also welcome the offer of Tajikistan to convene the third ACD Energy Forum, the hosting of the International Exhibition "Expo-2017: Future Energy" in Astana by Kazakhstan and the hosting of a specialized workshop on renewable, clean and sustainable energy, in cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in Abu Dhabi in the first quarter of 2014 in the context of Abu Dhabi Sustainable Week activities;

26. We commit ourselves to promote networking and strengthen cooperation by establishing partnership links between the ACD and other regional organizations and forums in various areas, including food, water and energy security, climate change, natural disasters, desertification, environmental and ecosystem preservation;

27. We take note of the draft Outline Concept Paper on ACD Regional Connectivity prepared by Thailand, which aims at building intra-regional linkages within the region and helps promote Asia's inclusive economic and social development by enhancing trade, investment, regional competitiveness and better understanding among peoples in Asia. We agree to consider its proposals further at the Working Group on Enhanced ACD Regional Connectivity to be convened by Thailand in June 2013;

28. We stress the importance of greater people-to-people contact for the promotion of peace, understanding and amity, which are vital for sustaining any outcome of our cooperation. In this regard, we call for increased exchange in culture, education and training among ACD Member States;

29. We encourage enhancement of participation and effective engagement of all governments, civil society, private sector and other relevant stakeholders to implement sustainable development and to take appropriate and effective measures to strengthen coordination and cooperation in order to integrate sustainable development into public and private investment, decision-making and the planning of humanitarian and development actions;

30. We endorse the results of the ACD Senior Officials' Meeting held in Kuwait on 3 and 4 March 2013, concerning the setting up of an ACD provisional secretariat. We appreciate Kuwait's offer to host and bear responsibilities for all necessary costs of the headquarters and personnel of the provisional secretariat until the next ACD Summit in Thailand in 2015;

31. We take note of the proposal by the State of Kuwait for the mobilization of US$ 2 billion for an Asian Development Fund and deeply appreciate Kuwait's pledge of US$ 300 million initial contribution. We call for experts to meet to discuss

the establishment and implementation of this proposal. Kuwait encourages other ACD Member States to make voluntary contributions to the fund;

32. While welcoming the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its capacity as Prime Mover in Cultural Cooperation, we call upon Member States to participate in the ACD Ministerial Meeting on Cultural Cooperation, which will be held in Tehran on 7 and 8 May 2013. Furthermore, we appreciate and welcome the holding of the first ACD Regional Seminar on Culture and Globalization in Asia, which was held in Tehran on 12 and 13 February 2013;

33. We take note of the ongoing, comprehensive national dialogue in Bahrain and welcome its generous offer to host the twelfth ACD Ministerial Meeting in Manama;

34. We also welcome the generous offers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the ACD in Riyadh and of Thailand to host the fourteenth Ministerial Meeting of the ACD and the second ACD Summit in 2015;

35. We express our appreciation to the Government of Tajikistan for the warm hospitality and the arrangements made for the eleventh ACD Ministerial Meeting.

Adopted in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 29 March 2013.

United Nations A/67/865

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 May 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 45
Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 13 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions received from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 15 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to you (A/67/839) transmitting, in the annex, a note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Republic of Argentina, Mr. Héctor Timerman.

It is regrettable that the Republic of Argentina has again made unfounded claims of the United Kingdom's "militarization" of the South Atlantic, despite the many clarifications that my Government has provided and our repeated requests that the Republic of Argentina desist from making such false allegations.

You will recall that the United Kingdom most recently clarified this issue in letters to you dated 22 February 2012 (A/66/706) and 18 October 2012 (A/67/544). Those letters confirmed that the United Kingdom carries out routine biannual exercises involving short-range air defence missiles on the Falkland Islands. There is nothing new in these exercises, which have been carried out every year since the illegal invasion of the Falkland Islands in 1982. In 2012, the exercises were carried out in July and October. The first of this year's exercises was held in April 2013. A second exercise will be carried out later this year. Routine military exercises are entirely legitimate and consistent with the inherent rights of all States. We do not agree that we are in breach of any United Nations resolution concerning the Falkland Islands.

These exercises pose no risk to Argentina, the region or maritime traffic. All necessary safety measures, including notification to mariners, were put in place, as usual. The Rapier missiles are short-range surface-to-air missiles. They are purely defensive in nature, designed to provide air defence in the immediate proximity of the Falkland Islands. Given their short range, there is no risk of them falling outside the Falkland Islands' waters.

13-33774 (E) 210513

Please recycle

My letter dated 22 February 2012 also made clear the United Kingdom's unambiguous position on its nuclear deterrent. I would like to reiterate that position to avoid any doubt. The United Kingdom fully respects the obligations placed on it under the Protocols to the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Treaty of Tlatelolco). The United Kingdom will not use, or threaten to use, nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States parties to, and in compliance with, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

My Government has stressed many times that its posture in the South Atlantic is purely defensive in nature. Contrary to Argentine claims of escalation, the United Kingdom's military presence on the Falkland Islands has in fact reduced over time. The military presence peaked at over 20,000 personnel in the aftermath of the Argentine invasion of 1982. In the mid-1990s, the figure stood at around 1,800. Since 2002, it has remained at the current figure of around 1,200.

In the light of this clarification, I hope that Mr. Timerman and his Government will now refrain from making further unfounded and unwarranted claims of "militarization" by the United Kingdom, which itself serves only to raise unnecessary tensions in the region.

My Government has no doubt about the United Kingdom's sovereignty over the Falkland Islands or South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas of these territories. The principle of self-determination, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, underlies the position of the United Kingdom on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands. The Falkland Islanders have the right to self-determination and the right to develop their economy, including by developing their natural resources for their own economic benefit. The United Kingdom unequivocally supports that right. The Falkland Islanders made their views clear in the recent referendum, when they voted overwhelmingly to retain their constitutional links with the United Kingdom.

My Government hopes that the Republic of Argentina will now respect the Islanders' wishes and allow them to develop their economy and home in peace. The hostile action we have seen previously by the current Government of Argentina, aimed at isolating the Islanders and harming their economy, serves to increase tension in the area, which is unnecessary and unjustified.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45.

(*Signed*) Mark **Lyall Grant**